

# The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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## Contents

### Topics of the Day:

THE PRESIDENT'S STARTLING MESSAGE ON VENEZUELA . . . . .	241
A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ON FINANCE . . . . .	245
SECRETARY CARLISLE ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION . . . . .	246
THE GREENBACKS AND THE RESERVE	247
AN ANTI-SEMITIC CRUSADE IN THE UNITED STATES . . . . .	248
PHILADELPHIA TROLLEY-CAR STRIKE	248
A CHIEF JUSTICE TAKES THE LAW INTO HIS OWN HANDS . . . . .	248
POLICE CORRUPTION IN PHILADELPHIA	249
TOPICS IN BRIEF . . . . .	249

### Letters and Art:

IDEAS AND FANCIES OF THE LATE ALEXANDRE DUMAS . . . . .	250
CHARACTER AND INFLUENCE OF CAR- LYLE . . . . .	251
ANOTHER PLEA FOR MORALITY IN FICTION . . . . .	252
DRAWBACKS TO AMERICAN ART AND CULTURE . . . . .	252
LETTERS OF MATTHEW ARNOLD . . . . .	253
A READING AGE . . . . .	253
NOTES . . . . .	253

### Science:

WHAT HOLDS THE OCEAN IN PLACE? . . . . .	254
STILTED SCIENTIFIC PHRASEOLOGY . . . . .	254
BACTERIA IN THE DAIRY . . . . .	255
TELEPHONING WITH BARE CONDUCTORS LAID ALONG THE GROUND . . . . .	255
A NATURAL MUMMY . . . . .	255
REDISCOVERY OF THE SUN-GAS . . . . .	255
ANCIENT ENGINEERING IN NORTHERN GREECE . . . . .	256
EDISON ON THE TRIALS OF INVENTORS	256
RECENT FLASHLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY . . . . .	256
HOW A WATER-DROP SPLASHES . . . . .	257
EYE DISEASES OF COAL-MINERS . . . . .	257
AN AUTOMATIC TICKET-SELLER . . . . .	257

### STRENGTH OF METALS SHOWN BY THEIR

MELTING-POINT . . . . .	257
A SIMPLE TEST FOR IMPURITY IN WATER . . . . .	257
SCIENCE BREVITIES . . . . .	257

### The Religious World:

THE CHURCH PRESS ON THE WOMAN'S BIBLE . . . . .	258
IS THERE A GREAT REVIVAL COMING?	258
THE GREEK PATRIARCH ON CHURCH UNION . . . . .	258
CHURCH FEDERATIONS . . . . .	260
DECADENCE OF DOGMA . . . . .	260
GROWING POWER OF RITUALISM IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH . . . . .	261
FIRST WOMAN PASTOR IN NEW ENG- LAND . . . . .	261
RELIGIOUS NOTES . . . . .	261

### From Foreign Lands:

THE STRUGGLE IN CUBA . . . . .	262
MILITARY SERVICE: IS IT DEGRADING OR ELEVATING? . . . . .	263
THE ARMY QUESTION IN SWITZERLAND	263
GERMANY'S ANSWER TO PRESIDENT CLEVELAND . . . . .	264
AMERICAN COLONY IN BERLIN . . . . .	264
RADICAL COMMENTS ON AN IMPERIAL ARTIST . . . . .	265
BERLIN'S COMING EXHIBITION . . . . .	265
ACCIDENTS AND INSURANCE . . . . .	265

### Miscellaneous:

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS OF LONG AGO . . . . .	266
WAVES OF POPULAR INSANITY . . . . .	266
WHAT IS YOUR "PET MEANNESS"? . . . . .	267
DEMOCRACY AND THE SERVANT QUES- TION . . . . .	267
HOW SHALL WE PUNCTUATE THE SALU- TATION IN OUR LETTERS? . . . . .	268
CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER . . . . .	268
BUSINESS SITUATION . . . . .	269
CHESS . . . . .	269
CURRENT EVENTS . . . . .	51

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## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

### THE PRESIDENT'S STARTLING MESSAGE ON VENEZUELA.

**A**RBITRATION of the entire boundary dispute between England and Venezuela having been positively declined by Lord Salisbury in his reply to the note of Secretary Olney, President Cleveland, in a special message to Congress last week, reaffirmed the Monroe doctrine, and declared it to be the duty of the United States to determine with certainty the true boundary between the possessions of the two governments concerned, and "resist by every means in its power" the appropriation by Great Britain of any territory which is found to belong to Venezuela. The President recommended an adequate appropriation for a commission to be appointed by him for the purpose of making a careful investigation of the boundary question and reporting its findings with the least possible delay.

In his reply to Secretary Olney, the British Premier claims that the Monroe doctrine is both generally inapplicable "to the state of things in which we live at the present day," and specially inapplicable to the boundary dispute in question. He further contends that, since the "doctrine" has not been recognized as part of international law the United States is not "entitled to affirm as a general proposition" that its interests are necessarily concerned in whatever may befall a number of independent and sovereign governments simply because they are situated in the Western Hemisphere. He absolutely refuses to accept the doctrine that the United States is entitled to insist that arbitration shall be applied to any territorial dispute between independent States. President Cleveland meets these assertions by saying that the Monroe doctrine derives sanction from the principles of international law, since in international counsels every nation is accorded the rights justly claimed by it, and since the principle contended for in the "doctrine" has such peculiar relations to the United States that its claims can not fail to be recognized. As for the applicability of the "doctrine" to the present issue, the

President says that "it was intended to apply to every stage of our national life," and that "if a European power, by an extension of its boundaries, takes possession of the territory of one of our neighboring republics against its will," it is difficult to see why, to that extent, such European power does not thereby attempt to extend its system of government to the portion thus taken, it being a matter of indifference whether the extension is made by an advance of frontier or otherwise.

Congress received the message with manifestations of satisfaction and enthusiasm. The House promptly and unanimously passed a bill voting an appropriation of \$100,000 for the commission suggested, and in the Senate the President's attitude is generally upheld. The overwhelming majority of the newspapers applaud the message as American, vigorous, and eminently just, but quite a number of influential organs, Republican, Democratic, and Independent, deprecate the tone of the President and question the correctness of his interpretation of the Monroe doctrine, being rather inclined to agree with Lord Salisbury's contention that the doctrine is inapplicable to the boundary dispute and that the United States is not entitled to insist on arbitration of the difficulty.

Of the many public men who have, in interviews or otherwise, expressed themselves upon the question, only the governors of the several States seem to be in full sympathy with the spirit of the message. Among prominent lawyers, professors of law, clergymen, and business men no such unanimity is shown. Prof. Theodore S. Woolsey, who holds the chair of international law in Yale, says that the pretense that our safety is menaced by the boundary dispute is simply ridiculous, and that the President has assumed a position wholly indefensible under international principles. President Hyde of Bowdoin College, and Professors Hayes and Taussig, of Harvard, find the message to be needlessly bellicose and mischievous. Abram S. Hewitt, ex-Mayor of New York, holds that the Monroe doctrine is totally inapplicable to the situation, and the same view was recently expressed by James C. Carter, the leading New York lawyer. On the other hand, ex-Minister Lincoln, General Alger, Chauncey M. Depew, and other leading men approve of the message and the stand taken by the President.

Historian von Holst, of the Chicago University, is reported as having expressed himself as follows regarding the message:

"The Monroe doctrine is nowise involved. That has to do with colonizing and extending power. It contemplates aggressive measures on the part of Great Britain. That does not enter into the Venezuela question. That is simply a matter of disputed boundary. By no license of reasoning, short of wilful misconstruction and misstatement, can the Monroe doctrine be made applicable to the controversy. By no principle or practise of international law can the United States find excuse for the position President Cleveland advocates. The President and Olney have nothing as a basis for their illegitimate doctrines. I condemn their utterances as a public disgrace and calamity."

On the other hand, Historian J. B. McMaster, of the University of Pennsylvania, thinks that the message is sound in every particular. He is reported as saying:

"The day has come when the Monroe doctrine, which might more properly be called the 'American doctrine,' should either be enforced or abandoned. Lord Salisbury's claim that the doctrine was for a particular time and a particular purpose is not

tenable. . . . The doctrine was not for 1823, but for all time. It is applicable 'to the state of things in which we live at the present day.' Monroe not only announced a doctrine, but applied it at the same time. Mr. Cleveland upholds the doctrine and makes another application. The applications are different, but the doctrine is the same."

We append American and foreign comment:

**Neither Jingoistic nor Supine, but Dignified and Firm.**—"The message and correspondence display evidences of earnest thought and the answers to the British contentions are well weighed and convincing. The correspondence in the case resembles the arguments of counsel in legal proceedings. The President's message is the judge's charge to the jury, composed of the members of Congress as representing the people of the United States. In the light of the charge it is difficult to see how any verdict can be rendered in favor of Great Britain and her pretense of believing that the Monroe doctrine does not apply to the present case. So far as America is concerned there is no possible question as to the result. The President will be commended for his firm, patriotic tone and upheld in his position by every American who believes that the time has come for insisting upon a recognition of the United States in all matters affecting territorial acquisitions in this hemisphere. . . .

"There is no jingoism in the President's message; neither is there weakness, nor cowardice, nor 'supine submission.' The answers to the points of Lord Salisbury's reply are plain and direct and the President wastes no words in quibbling over technicalities but grasps the situation in a broad patriotic spirit. . . . 'America is for Americans,' the President in effect declares, and to this proposition the millions not only of the United States but of the three Americas will say 'Amen!'"—*The Star (Ind.), Washington*.

**A Jingo Bugaboo.**—"President Cleveland's message to Congress on the Venezuelan matter is a serious blunder. It is a blunder because it is based upon a wrong conception, because it is not sustained by international law or usage, and because it places the United States in a false position. . . .

"To interfere in South America and bring on a war between two great, free, and highly civilized nations on any account less serious than a menace such as the President describes, would be the monumental crime of the century.

"Are our 'peace and safety as a nation,' the 'integrity of our free institutions,' and 'the tranquil maintenance of our distinctive form of government' threatened by an extension, however unwarranted and arbitrary, of the English possessions in Venezuela? The preposterous nature of this jingo bugaboo is sufficiently indicated by pointing to Canada and to British Columbia, on our very border. England is not a 'foreign nation' in this hemisphere. Great Britain owns more territory on this continent than we do. She was here before we were a nation. If she had the hostile intentions which the President's words impute, did she need to wait for a boundary dispute in distant Venezuela, with a hybrid race, to assail us or to menace our Republican institutions?

"The assumption is absurd. And with it falls the structure of ponderously patriotic rhetoric reared upon it by the President."—*The World (Dem.), New York*.

**Stretching the "Doctrine" Without Sufficient Reason.**—"Admitting Great Britain and Venezuela to be foreign and independent states, and neither of them under the control or guardianship of the United States, it would be difficult to see upon what ground the United States could claim to say what should be the terms of arbitration, or even to make arbitration compulsory. . . .

"Nobody at that time understood Mr. Monroe's language as having any application to a boundary dispute such as has arisen between Great Britain and Venezuela. It is evidently to the application of the famous 'doctrine' to the present case that Lord Salisbury has taken most serious objection. As presented by Secretary Olney, the 'doctrine' is not only in full force and vigor to-day, but virtually makes the United States the protector and guardian as against European aggression of every other state in this hemisphere. It creates that very protective alliance with the South American republics which in 1826 the House of Representatives expressly condemned and protested against. We should be sorry to think that Mr. Olney shares in any degree the 'jingo'

sentiments which just now seem to be especially ripe among New England statesmen, such as Lodge, Chandler, Frye, and the 'bounding' and irrepressible Willy-wee Barrett. We can not but think, however, that he has given to the 'Monroe doctrine' a significance and an application not justified by the language of Mr. Monroe's message, by the circumstances under which that message was written, by the facts of history and the contemporaneous construction placed upon it, or by the subsequent action of the only department of the Government which should have the power to commit the country to a policy of peace or war."—*The Sun (Dem.), Baltimore*.

**May Take Jingoism Out of the Next Campaign.**—"The 'Monroe doctrine,' as it is popularly understood, is popularly approved. But this approval may be stretched too far by new interpretations of the doctrine. If the position is set up by the Government that the United States is to champion any American country in any controversy with a European power, if we are to indorse Brazil in its contention with France over a boundary dispute now in progress, as well as Venezuela in its quarrel with Great Britain, the people ought to know the fact. The President's definition of the Monroe doctrine claims for it a place in the code of international law on the broad ground that whatever is vital to this nation's safety belongs there. On this proposition, at once all-embracing and conveniently indefinite, we can either let alone any question in South America which does not necessarily concern us, or handle any one that does. This shrewd opportunism it is pretty safe to attribute to Mr. Olney's astute and practical counsel.

"The transmission of the Venezuelan correspondence to Congress will enlighten the country and enable it to act understandingly. More than that, it will put an end to any suggestion that the Administration is lukewarm in its 'Americanism'—and so perhaps will have the blessed result of neutralizing jingoism and taking it out of the politics of the Presidential year, after all."—*The Transcript (Rep.), Boston*.

**Blundering Diplomacy of a Conceited Tyro.**—"We do not believe there will be a war or any serious trouble between this country and England over the Venezuela matter, or that there is any actual danger of it. But if there were, it would be directly chargeable to these cuckoo marplots, who have been doing their utmost to becloud and complicate the case and to make more difficult a peaceful and honorable settlement of it.

"Nor is the Administration itself free from blame. Amid all the cordial and loyal support that is now being given to him by men of both parties, the feeling can not be ignored that this is a startling 'new departure' for Mr. Cleveland. His foreign policy hitherto has displayed scarcely a tithe of the patriotism, lucidity, and strength of this latest message. It has been unsatisfactory, at times even offensive, to the best sentiments of the American people. Now he has at last discovered what public opinion really is, and has concluded that it is best for him to follow it. He does more. With the zeal of a new convert he seeks to lead it. He is not content with diplomacy, but resorts to defiance. In response to the just demand of the American people that the dispute shall be impartially arbitrated, he pronounces an *ex cathedra* decree



THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL.

—*The Tribune, New York*.



that Great Britain is in the wrong, and that the only thing for us to do is to appoint a partisan commission to confirm the judgment we have already rendered. That is diplomacy as a self-opinionated tyro conceives it. He is so unused to taking the right course that when at last he seeks to do so he does it blunderingly. What we wish to emphasize is the lesson which this incident teaches in favor of a continuous and consistent foreign policy."—*The Tribune (Rep.)*, New York.

**A Policy of Madness.**—"Mr. Cleveland has made a most serious mistake. His policy in this matter is not only precipitate and untimely, it is madness itself. He has out-jingooed the jingoes; and from being the embodiment of sober judgment he has become the hasty abettor of a political fanaticism. In thus inviting war, he has not shown the discretion of providing a way of escape from that alternative. He would send his own commission to investigate the merits of the boundary claims; such meager information as could be obtained would come from the Venezuelans, while the British side would be unrepresented; and the commission's verdict would consequently be such as to lead to threatened ejection of England from the country claimed by Venezuela."—*The Journal of Commerce (Ind.)*, New York.

**Prepare for War in the Interval.**—"The American people will deal roughly with any Senator, or any Representative, who seeks to cripple the hand of the Executive, uplifted at this juncture in discharge of an exalted mission and in vindication of the nation's honor. Not an hour should be lost in placing our navy on the strongest possible footing through the swift completion of vessels on the stocks, and through the purchase of foreign iron-clads. The extension and improvement of the fortifications of our chief seaports ought to be pushed night and day. The immediate adaptation of our military organization to the requirements of sudden and considerable expansion will not of course be overlooked. Of equal if not superior importance is the work that ought to be accomplished in the course of a few months by American diplomatists. It will be the fault of our State Department; and we do not believe that Mr. Richard Olney will omit any precaution at this crisis; if such an understanding is not betimes arrived at with the Court of St. Petersburg and the French Republic as will assure to us the cooperation of the French and Russian navies in the event of war. It should be the aim of American diplomacy to see to it that of the naval battles, which the British Government no doubt imagines would be confined to American waters, some at least should be fought out in the British Channel and the Irish Sea."—*The Sun (Dem.)*, New York.

**The First Step in a New and Perilous Path.**—"The position taken is the first step in a new and dangerous path, the end of which can not be foreseen.

"So far as the literal construction of the Monroe doctrine is concerned, Lord Salisbury is in the right in asserting that it has no applicability to the contention now going on between Great Britain and Venezuela, for it can not be pretended that the doctrine would ever have seen the light if the issues of more than half a century ago had been simply boundary disputes between a foreign colony and an American state. The only way in which a relation can be established between the Monroe doctrine and the present controversy is by giving to it a new construction, and by affirming that the United States will not only protect, as it has protected, the independence of the smaller American states from foreign interference, but will also safeguard their indefinite boundary lines when these happen to be the occasion for a dispute between one of them and a European power. . . .

"It is one thing to enforce the Monroe doctrine and another to apply it, and to our mind there can be no doubt that President Cleveland and Mr. Olney have in the matter under consideration given to it a new application, conformable, certainly, not with its words, and, possibly, not with its spirit."—*The Herald (Ind.)*, Boston.

#### Brief Comment.

"President Cleveland's special message to Congress on the Venezuelan question must satisfy the most exacting and enthusiastic jingoes. But it will make the judicious grieve. We have no criticism to make of the message itself, nor of Mr. Cleveland's statement of the case. He has expressed himself with even more than his usual clearness and force, but it is to be hoped on every account that some satisfactory basis may yet be found for an honorable adjustment of the differences between the United States

and Great Britain without resort to the last dread appeal of nations."—*The News and Courier (Dem.)*, Charleston.

"The President's Venezuelan message meets the hearty approval of the people. They believe the Monroe doctrine should be upheld, and that it must be upheld now or forever abandoned. They are not anxious for war with Great Britain. They want peace with all the world, and they would willingly do all that could be done with honor to maintain it, but they prefer war, knowing full well what it means, rather than have peace on terms that would not be creditable to the nation."—*The News (Dem.)*, Savannah.

"President Cleveland assumes the rightful position of a President of the United States. He asserts the principles of true Americanism. He speaks the popular will in language not to be mistaken."—*The Call (Rep.)*, San Francisco.

"President Cleveland has taken precisely the stand in his Venezuelan message which Americans who are not jingoes but who are keenly alive to the honor, the interests, and the traditions of their country hoped he would take."—*The Examiner (Dem.)*, San Francisco.

"President Cleveland has given the people of the United States a genuine and agreeable surprise. In a dignified, patriotic, conservative, yet courageous temper he has accepted the challenge which Great Britain has laid down in its contemptuous commentaries on the Monroe doctrine."—*The World (Rep.)*, Cleveland.

"His *casus belli* is unworthy of a statesman, and its adoption can only be attributed to what he believes to be the political necessities of his party. With certain classes in this country possessing much political influence, a war with England would be extremely popular, and the Democratic ticket next year will require a tidal wave from somewhere to float it into the harbor of success."—*The Journal (Ind.)*, Providence.

"We have no doubt that it will be applauded by the people of the United States—the vast majority of them. They believe in the Monroe doctrine, and they do not take kindly to the experience of being bullied. The message is not a declaration of war, however. Declaring war is Congress's affair, not the President's. Grave as the actual state of things is—and we are not at all disposed to underestimate its gravity—war is by no means the only solution."—*The Courant (Rep.)*, Hartford.

"The message is good. From first word to last word it is good. It is brave, without bluster; it is firm, without ferocity. It is temperate in tone, discreet in language, logical in reasoning, truthful in statement, pacific in purpose. It is American in sentiment, and at the same time humanitarian in principle. It is timely. It goes just far enough, and stops at precisely the right point. It contains no threats, merely announcements."—*The Advertiser (Rep.)*, Boston.

"The safety of our Republic and the welfare of our people we believe to be dependent on the inviolability of the principles embodied in the Monroe doctrine. We are committed to that position and it is impossible for us to abandon it. If this doctrine is not applicable to the present case, so much the better, but to decide whether it is or not must be our privilege."—*The Telegraph (Rep.)*, Philadelphia.

"Cleveland's message is an exhibition of American backbone which every American will applaud. Petty indeed is the soul that would refuse on account of personal dislike to sustain this patriotic utterance of President Cleveland."—*The Enquirer (Dem.)*, Cincinnati.

"If the Monroe doctrine is to be made a vital principle of American diplomacy this is the time to assert it. This is the sort of assault by a European power on an independent nation on this continent which President Monroe declared would be dangerous to our peace and safety. As this assault is persisted in despite the protest of the President, Congress has a right to look upon it as a manifestation of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States, and should act in accordance with this fact."—*The Globe-Democrat (Rep.)*, St. Louis.

"In substance the message is a dignified but peremptory declaration that the Monroe doctrine is sound international law; that the United States will abide by it, and that further aggressions in Venezuela will be met with resistance by every means within the nation's power. If Congress remains steadfast in support of the

President's policy, the effect of this message will be the final establishment of the Monroe doctrine beyond any nation's power to dispute."—*The Record (Ind.)*, Chicago.

"On the main question that the principle involved is fundamental to our own existence and that it must be maintained at any cost, the President will have the necessary support of the Congress and the whole nation. We should make it clearly understood that it means war, unless the British Cabinet recedes from its position."—*The Dispatch (Rep.)*, Pittsburg.

"The nation is with the President. It makes no difference to us whether or not any foreign government may decline to admit the validity of the Monroe doctrine. We are prepared to demonstrate its validity with the entire strength of a sovereign people."—*The Times-Herald (Ind.)*, Chicago.

"In supporting the President in this position the people of this country will stand as one man. Party lines will vanish like smoke and sectional divisions will be forgotten. The honor of our country is at stake. We have a President who means to defend it and we are all with him."—*The Journal (Dem.)*, Atlanta.

#### Cabled English Comment.

**Concessions that No Civilized Nation Would Make.**—"Convinced as we are that a rupture between the two great English-speaking communities would be a calamity, not only to themselves, but to the civilized world, we are nevertheless driven to the conclusion that the concessions that this country is imperiously summoned to make are such as no self-respecting nation, and, least of all, one ruling an empire that has roots in every quarter of the globe, could possibly submit to.

"The United States themselves would never for a moment dream of yielding to this kind of dictation. We are of the same blood, and shall not be less careful of our national honor.

"We can hardly believe that the course threatened by Mr. Cleveland will be seriously adopted by the American Government, but, if so, it will be incumbent upon us, without entering upon any aggressive measures, to protect our imperial interest and stand up for our rights under international law. . . .

"We must stand firmly and calmly upon our rights as an independent state, and, if necessary, take practical measures to assert them.

"It may even be expedient to settle the frontier question by drawing a line of our own. Of course, there can be no thought of anything other than the Schomburgk line, and allowing the United States and Venezuela to deal with matters as they may."—*The Times*, London.

**Claiming Rights Without Assuming Duties.**—"There is one answer to President Cleveland and America. If an enlarged application of a neglected doctrine is to be enforced with all the might of the United States, at least let us be assured of the correlative that the United States will make itself responsible for the foreign policy of all the petty, impetuous little states on the two continents of America. There is no international right without corresponding duty. . . .

"We can only express genuine regret at the tone of the document, which meets no argument made by Lord Salisbury, and which applies a threat of force from a daughter state to the motherland over an obscure, trumpery dispute in which the United States has no real interest. But the message can not defeat or obscure the affection which subsists between the two countries, or break the ties of blood that must needs bind them in indissoluble union."—*The Chronicle*, London.

**Pure Question-Begging and Misrepresentation.**—"The President in his account of the doctrine surrenders the whole case. What Monroe meant was that the United States would resent any European attempt to establish monarchical systems in hostile communities on the American continent. That was a serious consideration in 1823. It is altogether obsolete now, but what has all this to do with the boundaries of Venezuela? The President proves too much. It follows from the message that Guiana, and, indeed, Canada, have no right of independent existence on American soil.

"Mr. Cleveland begs the whole question and misrepresents it besides when he says that this country is seeking to extend the limits of British Guiana. This country is doing nothing of the kind. Venezuela claims territory that is now Guianese and Brit-

ish. If to resist this claim be a breach of the Monroe doctrine, that doctrine is an intolerable pretense."—*The Daily News*, London.

**Reductio ad Absurdum of a Cherished Principle.**—"The position taken up by Mr. Cleveland is preposterous. No citizen of the United States would for a moment dream of admitting its soundness in any analogous case in which the interest or honor of his own country was concerned. . . .

"We decline to humiliate ourselves and refuse to accept the decision of the United States' Executive in matters altogether outside of its jurisdiction.

"If it could reasonably be made out that the pretension of the State Department to enforce arbitration throughout the American continent had any color in the Monroe doctrine, such an application of the principle would be a *reductio ad absurdum* of a cherished maxim.

"Happily, however, for the sobriety and endurance of the traditions of American diplomacy, Lord Salisbury has effectively disposed of the delusion that the Monroe doctrine is in any way pertinent to the question of the Guiana-Venezuela frontier."—*The Standard*, London.

**A Sham Tribunal Set Up.**—"President Cleveland has outdone the Republican Party in his efforts to show dislike for this country, yet he has not committed himself to anything. The message does not make the slightest attempt to grapple with Lord Salisbury's argument that the United States can not find any excuse in the language of the Monroe doctrine for their appearance on the scene, or that, if they could give the old President's words any such extension, his declaration has no authority. The international law tribunal that President Cleveland asks the Congress to set up can have no more binding effect in this country than would a decision by the Supreme Court at Washington."—*The Morning Post*, London.

**Perverse and Inadmissible Claim.**—"The United States have no practical concern in the controversy. The invocation of the Monroe doctrine seems, on our side of the water, to be irrelevant and absurd.

"If it is in any sense true that all this zealous support of Venezuela owes its origin to partizan intrigues, there is still less reason for submitting to what, from the British standpoint, is a wholly perverse and inadmissible claim."—*The Telegraph*, London.

#### Other Foreign Comments.

"The question is whether Mr. Cleveland is merely twisting the British lion's tail or is acting seriously. At any rate his action is without diplomatic precedent unless such can be found in the annals of the arrogant Roman Senate. England refuses arbitration, while the United States Government declares that it will compel England to accept its judgment without appeal. It is impossible for an autonomous state, let alone a great power, to submit to such humiliation. Mr. Cleveland has been accused of restricting the meaning of the Monroe doctrine, but in fact he now stretches it beyond measure. Monroe never imagined such action. Mr. Cleveland's claim of supreme authority over the whole hemisphere is a claim that is harmful to the *protégés* of the United States, as Europe and England will not bow to such a pretension. Arbitration has been greatly harmed in public opinion, yet war is impossible. The incident is one of the periodical outbursts that had a parallel in the Sackville-West affair."—*Le Temps*, Paris.

"Peoples of the same race and origin are accustomed to using strong language without fighting. Doubtless the differences will be settled pacifically. If Lord Salisbury should pick up the glove so arrogantly thrown down England would be able to organize a military expedition in a few hours, while the United States is unprepared. The complication affords matter for reflection on the disadvantages of colonial expansion."—*La Liberté*, Paris.

"England is in a dilemma. Submission is equivalent to humiliation and resistance is equivalent to war, an implacable duel with all the energy and the moral and material forces which America has at its disposal, including the Irish, whom England's iniquitous rule has exiled to the New World. Europe will not intervene. It would not dare to brave an American coalition roused to anger by an attack upon its dearest interests. The time is past when British diplomacy bribed half the world and in-



timidated the remainder. It is only audacious now with weaklings like the Matabeles; it will now know how to be prudent. England can not count on any support."—*La Patrie, Paris*.

"President Cleveland's answer leaves nothing to be desired in its outspokenness. England will begin to comprehend that America is no longer a field for English expansion. Mr. Cleveland appears to intend purposely to offend other powers, but it must be remembered that the elections in the United States are near."—*The Boersen Zeitung, Berlin*.

"This time it is a case of honor for the European states to stand by England's side, else Yankeedom will believe it has but to command, the Old Continent to obey."—*The Vossische Zeitung, Berlin*.

"There is no doubt that the President wrote with an eye to the elections, but there is no going behind the unequivocal pronouncement in which he contemptuously brushes aside Lord Salisbury's quibbles. The next move in the game is England's, and it is a move on which much may depend. It is no exaggeration to say that a serious crisis is imminent unless Lord Salisbury's stilted periods have been mere bluff, which is by no means improbable."—*The Freeman's Journal, Dublin*.

"Against pretensions of this kind all of the European states will stand by England, for it is a question to be decided once and for all whether unbridled claims of the United States shall be recognized, or European civilization subordinated to North American civilization on the American continent. Great Britain has the fullest moral and material right to persist defiantly in a conflict so passionately initiated."—*The Gazette, Cologne*.

#### A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ON FINANCE.

ONLY three days after sending his message on Venezuela, President Cleveland sent to Congress a special message on monetary matters which has given a sharp financial turn to war talk in Congress and the press. This second special message came on the heels of the reports of an average drop of five points in stocks on the London market, large shipments of gold from our reserve to pay for returning American securities, and a sympathetic panic in Wall Street. In Congress this special message seems to have drawn the lines for the partizan conflicts of the session.

The message calls the attention of Congress to withdrawals of gold that make it necessary to take further action for protecting the reserve. "We are in the midst of another season of perplexity," writes the President, "caused by our dangerous and fatuous financial operations. These may be expected to recur with certainty as long as there is no amendment in our financial system." If the present foreign policy has influenced our situation, the President declares that it "furnishes a signal and impressive warning that patriotic sentiment of our people is not an adequate substitute for a sound financial policy." He continues: "The real and sensible cure for our recurring troubles can only be effected by a complete change in our financial scheme. Pending that, the Executive branch of the Government will not relax its efforts nor abandon its determination to use every means within its reach to maintain before the world American credit, nor will there be any hesitation in exhibiting its confidence in the resources of our country and the constant patriotism of our people." The message concludes with a request that Congress will not take a recess before doing something to help the situation.

Both Houses of Congress took the message as meaning another issue of gold bonds. In the House Speaker Reed hastened the announcement of his committees and the message was referred to the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Dingley chairman. Republican leaders propose first to meet the President's proposal by a bill for raising the tariff schedules, and expect to report a bill during holiday week. Opposition in the Senate found expression in letting the message lie on the table. Lead-

ers in the Senate are free to say that no bond bill can pass that body.

**The President Must Sign a Tariff Bill.**—"There would have been no panic if Mr. Cleveland had taken counsel of his common sense and not of his anxieties. Probably there will be no severe one, anyhow, for values are already pretty nearly as low as they can be got. There are no balloons in the sky now and there have been none for the last two years. All enterprise is tethered close to the earth. The only thing that can much affect the market is the sale by English investors of their American securities, and that tendency Mr. Cleveland has much promoted by his foolish message.

"Congress will not get excited in deference to the President's suggestion. It will probably not adjourn for the holidays, but the passage of legislation will be influenced little, if any, by that fact. What this message acknowledges is that the Treasury needs money, and money is what Congress will proceed to obtain for it. A bill to enable the Executive to borrow may become a law, but there will certainly be attached to it a revenue provision that undertakes to obtain money that will not have to be paid back. The President has put himself where he can no longer refuse to sign a tariff bill. If his latest performance was intended as a clever stroke, it was too clever by half."—*The Press (Rep.), New York*.

**Provide a Popular Loan and Go Slowly.**—"That Congress should respond promptly to this appeal by providing for an issue of bonds of a character that will not only give the Treasury the relief it must have, but also will stay the endless drain upon its gold reserve, is not open to debate. It is equally clear that the bonds should be of low denomination, so as to afford the people an opportunity to take them. The situation calls for a popular loan, which *The Herald* originally proposed and has steadfastly urged. This is a patriotic loan, which strengthens the Government by giving the people a greater interest in it, and promotes the welfare of the masses by making the Government the custodian of their savings. Make it a popular loan, by all means. But the situation calls for more than sound financial action on the part of Congress. Mr. Cleveland does not conceal in his message what must be obvious to every intelligent person, that the crisis is the natural and inevitable consequence of the war scare caused by the bellicose tone of Congress and the precipitancy of both Houses in authorizing a commission to determine the boundary line between Venezuela and British Guiana. As Senator Sherman and other Senators urged on the floor of the Senate, there is no earthly need of hurry and every reason why Congress should go slowly."—*The Herald (Dem.), New York*.

**Bankers are Not Anxious to Make Sacrifices.**—"Of course, under the circumstances induced by the Venezuela message and by the belligerent furore it has excited, it seems almost hopeless to expect that the Government could procure any gold in Europe. And, moreover, men of responsibility have become so wearied of the process of borrowing 100 millions of gold a year which the Treasury can not hold that they are becoming disposed to accept the hopelessness of the case and let the financial problem be dealt with in its worst phase, as being possibly most conducive to the ultimate application of a remedy. Before the distrust evoked by the President's emphatic war threat, there was some inclination in that direction; but now the disposition has become so manifest as to threaten a serious effect upon the fate of the impending loan. Moreover, the President's strange reckless attitude toward the business interests of the country and the consequent loss of confidence in his Administration have produced a serious discouragement of the promptness that has so far existed to make sacrifices in the interest of the Treasury."—*Journal of Commerce (Ind.), New York*.

"Mr. Cleveland is certainly to be applauded for his special message of yesterday, but he can not fail to see the almost humorous inadequacy of the effort. A fire has been started by the rampant spirit of jingoism, and it will require of Congress different action from that which it has yet given us reason to expect, to stop it."—*The Republican (Ind.), Springfield, Mass.*

"Mr. Cleveland's vigorous message was not the cause of the tempest which swept the stock market. The real responsibility for that was away back in the unsoundness of the country's financial condition. If we had been on as strong a basis as we should have been, no sudden manifestation of foreign distrust could have had it in its power to shake the foundations of our solvency."—*The Journal (Rep.), Boston*.

## SECRETARY CARLISLE ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

**A**FTER an unusual delay of two weeks, Secretary Carlisle submitted the Treasury report to Congress on Monday, December 16. The report is largely argumentative, and advocates the same measures in regard to the currency and the gold reserve as were embodied in the President's message. Mr. Carlisle states explicitly that no legislation whatever is necessary for the purpose of increasing Governmental revenues. While the deficit this year is over forty-two millions—which deficit the Secretary attributes to the annulment of the income-tax provisions of the tariff law by the Supreme Court—the fiscal year ending June 1, 1896, will, according to present estimates, amount to no more than seventeen millions, and the fiscal year succeeding is expected to yield a surplus of about seven millions. The situation, says Mr. Carlisle, calls for strict economy in expenditures, but not for any legislation looking to means of raising additional revenue. Like the President, Secretary Carlisle denies that the excess of expenditures over receipts in the last two years has in any wise necessitated the issue of bonds, or that any amount of surplus revenue could prevent the withdrawal of the Treasury's gold. Nothing but the retirement of the greenbacks, according to him, can protect the gold reserve and restore confidence in the financial stability of the Government. Nevertheless he asks Congress for authority to issue short-term bonds or certificates to supply casual and unexpected deficiencies that may arise under special circumstances.

As a substitute for the greenbacks, Secretary Carlisle recommends long-term three-per-cent. bonds, and he asks for authority to exchange these for greenbacks and Treasury-notes, or to sell them abroad for gold and use the gold thus obtained to redeem the legal-tender-notes for cancellation. To facilitate the substitution of bank-notes for the greenbacks, the Secretary recommends that the banks be authorized to issue notes equal to the face value of the bonds deposited for security. A number of minor suggestions are made in the same connection, but the Secretary omits to revive the plan, which he advanced last year—of a national-bank currency based on the capital stock of the banks instead of on Government bonds.

While many indorse Mr. Carlisle's suggestions, the general opinion seems to be that he has thrown no new light on the financial situation. A number of newspapers accuse him of distorting facts for the sake of supporting the President's financial views and discouraging attempts at tariff revision by the present Congress. We append a number of editorial comments:

**Figures More Reliable than Prophecies.**—"We think Congress will disregard the Secretary's recommendation to inaction. It will be influenced by the Secretary's figures rather than by his

prophecies, by his statements of the present condition of the Treasury, of certain deficits for the fiscal years '94, '95, and '96 rather than by his mirage-like vision of plethora in 1897—a prediction which is based on nothing better than the Secretary's buoyant and inextinguishable hopes.

"Mr. Carlisle repeats the recommendation made in his New York Chamber of Commerce speech and incorporated in President Cleveland's message, that the Govern-

ment issue three-per-cent. bonds and with the proceeds redeem and retire the greenbacks.

"These Government notes may be retired in time. They have developed one weakness. They are not wholly proof against incompetent national financiering. So long as the country had a Republican Administration, or the Treasury was controlled by laws made by a Republican Congress, the greenbacks gave no trouble in any quarter. They performed the function of money perfectly at the cost only of the paper they were printed on. It would indeed add a serious burden to that which the country must bear in any case for its experiment of Democratic administration if the \$346,000,000 non-interest-bearing Treasury-notes, which since 1878 have been as good as gold and served the people to their entire satisfaction, must now be converted into bonds and cost the country thereafter three per cent. per annum interest. If Congress is ever persuaded to retire the greenbacks it will be for quite another reason than because Cleveland and Carlisle choose to charge them with responsibility for all the financial ills brought about by Democratic incapacity and bad legislation."—*The Press (Rep.)*, Philadelphia.

**Nothing Worth Putting into Law.**—"Taking the report as a whole, it can only add to the feeling of financial helplessness that is taking hold of the country. It is little else than a reiteration of facts and theories with which the public have already become too familiar, and from which they have been unable to extract a ray of hope. The Secretary suggests two courses as alone pursuable under existing conditions. First, the continuous borrowing of gold; which he justly concedes to be out of the question. And next, the retirement of the legal tenders; his conviction being that the only way of preventing them from being used to drain the Treasury of its gold is to cancel them. He would therefore have them forthwith redeemed, through issues of three-per-cent. bonds. A consummation most devoutly to be wished; but the involvements of which the Secretary fails to at all adequately appreciate. He does not bestow any consideration on the time the process of retirement would occupy; he gives us no idea how the Treasury reserve would be protected during the four or five years over which the withdrawals would run; he does not notice the effect that the retirement must have upon the sensitive reserves of the banks; he suggests a method of expanding the national-bank circulation (in compensation for the contraction of the legal-tenders) the results of which would be utterly inadequate; and he talks of replacing greenbacks by foreign gold with a lightness which implies that Europe could be compelled to surrender an unlimited amount of its reserves at our convenience. Indeed, Mr. Carlisle has scarcely made one recommendation which, upon examination from a practical standpoint, would be found worth putting into law."—*The Journal of Commerce (Ind.)*, New York.

**A Policy Foredoomed to Failure.**—"The Secretary has surrendered to the President. He has given up the bank credit basis; he has dropped the repeal of the state-bank tax, and on both points he now stands loyally in line with the head of the Administration. . . .

"The Secretary's new departure is, as we have said, a decided improvement upon his old scheme. The national credit offers a much more solid foundation for circulating notes than would be furnished by bank credit, especially by bank credit as defined in the varying laws of forty-five different States; we include Utah in the count, for she is soon to be one of the sisterhood. But the national credit finds a much better exposition in the notes of the Government than in bank-notes resting on Government bonds. Fortunately for the country, there is not the slightest probability that the new Congress will assent to the project of the Administration for the retirement of the greenbacks to make room for further issues of national bank-notes. The policy is foredoomed to failure, and nothing but an injurious disturbance of business tranquillity can result from a sustained pressure for its adoption.

"As regards the revenue question, Secretary Carlisle holds that there is no need of an increase of taxation. . . . We risk nothing in predicting that Congress will disagree with him in this opinion."—*The Herald (Ind.)*, Boston.

"[The report] treats of a subject of the first importance in a masterly way, and makes recommendations which, if followed, would soon restore the country to a sound basis and provide the



OUR AMERICAN CZAR AND HIS DO-NOTHING POLICY.

—Harper's Weekly, New York.



conditions under which a busy people would become prosperous. Tracing the history of financial legislation resulting from the war, the Secretary shows conclusively that the recent loss of confidence which brought about a drain upon our gold reserve was the result of an unwise attempt to force into circulation a constantly increasing amount of legal-tender paper, and, at the same time, forcibly to retain as part of our currency about four hundred million legal-tender silver dollars, worth intrinsically less than the gold dollar which constituted the legal standard of value."—*The Ledger (Rep.)*, Philadelphia.

"For his belief that the country is entering upon an era of great prosperity Secretary Carlisle has the facts that are apparent to every one, and are attested in all the material interest and all the business activities of the country. He is supported by the logic of facts that are of universal knowledge in the nation. The Administration rescued the country from the verge of bankruptcy, restored confidence when the most serious financial disaster possible was threatening, and now, through the President as well as the Secretary of the Treasury, advocates such reform in our financial system as will make stability and prosperity go hand in hand."—*The Free Press (Dem.)*, Detroit.

### THE GREENBACKS AND THE RESERVE.

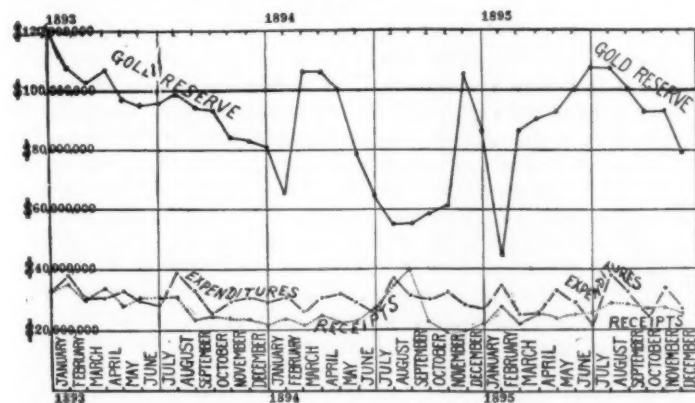
WHAT light do the facts throw on the warmly debated question of the alleged responsibility of the greenbacks for the depletion of the Government's gold reserve and the repeated issues of bonds? What would be the condition of the Treasury to-day if no bonds had been issued? To answer these queries, the New York *Voice* has constructed a table and diagram from the Treasury reports of receipts and expenditures issued during the last thirty-five months. According to the analysis of *The Voice* the following results are disclosed:

"1. That in the last 35 months the revenues have fallen behind the expenditures 140 millions of dollars.

"2. That during the last year, despite the drain on the gold reserve, by means of greenbacks, the outstanding circulation of greenbacks has remained about the same, indicating that, as fast as they came in, they were paid out for Governmental expenses.

"3. That while these greenbacks have thus been applied as fast as received to payment of expenses, the combined gold and silver bullion held by the Treasury has been decreasing, in proportion to Treasury liabilities, not increasing, indicating that Government expenditures have eaten up not only all the revenues, but all the greenbacks received, and made inroads besides on the stock of bullion."

We reproduce *The Voice's* diagram, together with the explanatory comments accompanying it:



"Up to the 1st of January, 1893, the ordinary Government receipts, from customs, internal revenue, and other regular channels, were sufficient to provide for the ordinary expenditures and leave a surplus to apply on the debts. Then, with the increasing hard times and changes in the revenue laws, expenditures began largely to exceed receipts. The two lower broken lines of the diagram show this by months for the past three years. . . .

"During these 35 months the receipts have exceeded the expenditures in only 7 months. The excess of expenditures over receipts for 1893 was 43 millions, for 1894 it was 62 millions, and

for 11 months of this year 35 millions. Altogether, in the past 35 months, the excess of expenditures over receipts, to be exact, has been \$140,694,415.

"At the same time, the actual Treasury balance has been diminishing, in spite of the complicated bookkeeping of the Treasury officials which makes attempts to get at the real condition extremely difficult. On January 1, 1893, there were 1,442 millions of notes of all kinds in circulation, exclusive of bank-notes which are not a direct Government obligation. To offset these there were 701 millions of actual gold and silver in the Treasury. This made a balance against the Government of 741 millions.

"On December 1 last, the Government currency of all kinds (not including bank-notes) was 1,386 millions, offset by 620 millions of gold and silver in the Treasury, thus making 766 millions of balance against the Government. Compared with the 741 millions of three years ago, this is an increase of 25 millions in these liabilities. This added to the 140 millions of deficit in revenues makes 165 millions which the Government has lost in the past three years.

"To meet this, the Government has issued bonds at three different periods: 50 millions in February, 1894, another 50 millions in September of the same year, and 62 millions beginning with February, 1895. In all, the bonds amount to 162 millions at face value, which covers the Government shortage of 165 millions within three millions. In addition, the Treasury received about 19 millions in premiums on these bonds, and has paid out on maturing Pacific railroad-bonds, and in other ways not included in 'ordinary expenditures,' enough to account for the 16 millions balance.

"From these facts it appears plain that the primary cause of the falling gold reserve has not been the greenbacks, but the failure of the receipts to meet the expenditures of the Government. Uncle Sam has been living beyond his income, and shows the effects of it in his pocket-money."

**Conservative Triumph in the Federation of Labor.**—Several features of the proceedings of the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor in New York this month are deemed by the daily press significant of the ascendancy of conservatism. Samuel Gompers, displaced by John McBride last year, this year defeated McBride for president by a majority of 18. McBride had the backing of the radical Socialists. Their numerical strength was tested by the vote of 1,796 to 214, which defeated the adoption of a political program. The same demands, however, were adopted as a statement of principles. It was decided not to inaugurate a general strike for an eight-hour day next May, but the executive council will designate a single trade to make the demand, which will be backed by the entire organization. Resolutions were passed favoring postal-savings banks, and against carrying mails on street railway lines until they are owned and operated by the Government. The convention refused to send delegates to the International Socialist Workers' and Trade-Union Congress to be held in London. Papers which question the wisdom of the eight-hour day movement, like the Philadelphia *Telegraph*, point out that "alien labor will have a new and greater temptation and inducement to come here in greater hordes and so add enormously to the surplus." The New York *Press* rejoices over "Socialism's latest defeat" as showing that Anglo-Saxon spirit is opposed to it. The Buffalo *News* makes this general comment:

"Samuel Gompers is one of the ablest men in the ranks of labor. He is considered conservative and earnest. His speeches are terse statements of conditions and carefully prepared. He said on Saturday: 'The brilliancy of a single leader will not gain a victory for labor. That must be done by the workingmen themselves.' He stated also that the objects of the Federation of Labor are four in number. First, the shortening of the hours of labor. Second, the abolition of all child labor and the regulation of woman's labor. Third, to render the labor of man as healthful as possible. Fourth, the changing of laws that now favor capital and oppress labor. Mr. Gompers declares he has three methods in mind to accomplish the results desired. They are effective organization, compact and obedient; higher dues and the creation of a great fund; agitation and the education of workingmen. These are intelligent methods and are fairly stated. Their consideration will enlist the attention of the workingmen of the country."

## AN ANTI-SEMITIC CRUSADE IN THE UNITED STATES.

**H**ERMANN AHLWARDT, the leader of the anti-Semitic element in the German Reichstag, came to this country early in December for the purpose of starting an anti-Semitic crusade. He proposes to deliver lectures in various American



RECTOR HERMANN AHLWARDT.

cities in order to arouse "slumbering anti-Semitic feeling." He states in an interview that he stands "on the grounds of racial, not religious, anti-Semitism," and that he is "striving to unite the working-people and the artisans against the Jews," because he considers that, "as a race, the Jews achieve nothing through their own honest efforts, but direct all their energies to absorb the results of other men's work by methods of trickery and deceit." Labor,

he asserts, is oppressed by them, its fruits monopolized, and the people corrupted. He spoke for the first time in Cooper Union, December 12, to a very small and evidently hostile audience. We quote a number of newspaper opinions about Herr Ahlwardt and his attempt at Jew-baiting in the United States:

**A Course of Reading Suggested.**—"It would be well for this foreign agitator to take a course of reading before he begins to advise Americans how to deal with their social and religious problems. He might well begin with 'The American Jew as Patriot, Soldier, and Citizen,' and this might convince him that whatever the condition of Jewish tolerance in Berlin or Vienna, hatred of the race can never be widespread among us. A Philadelphia paper proudly declares that there are the names of nine Jewish merchants of Philadelphia signed to the non-importation resolutions of 1765 still preserved in Carpenters' Hall, and a record of the Revolution shows that Jewish citizens fought nobly for the liberty they are now entitled to enjoy."—*The Journal, Boston.*

**The Constitution is Against Him.**—"That the man is foolish as well as ignorant, is proved by the fact that he can accomplish nothing of intolerance toward the Jews in the United States except through amendment of the Constitution of the United States. Before he can even contemplate that, he must bring more than a majority of the people to his way of thinking. . . . The trouble is that with all his wit and learning Ahlwardt has not learned much about the American people, and still less about the methods to employ to effect the peaceful revolution that is compassed whenever the Constitution is amended."—*Record-Union, Sacramento, Cal.*

**Racial Prejudices Have No Place Here.**—"Ahlwardt is a master of the art of epigrammatic insult. But his tune does not take here. Our national orchestration is out of harmony with his ideas and purposes. Racial prejudices have no more to do with our social, political, and economic systems than the sweep of the tides. To the extent that parties and politicians have acted on the contrary theory, they have been bowled over or run over, and the same is true of the introduction of religious questions into affairs of state. 'But,' says Ahlwardt, 'I do not attack the Hebrews on religious grounds. I oppose them, because of the mastery which they assume in finance, trade, and commerce.' If it be true that the Hebrews are the controlling factors in the financial world, there is no more occasion to find fault with them on that score than there would be to find fault with Chinamen or Hottentots or Zulus. No individual and no race attains preeminence in any walk of life without the possession of qualities which make for the distinction, and if the Hebrews are gradually tightening their grip on the world's commerce and finance they are entitled

to credit for their ability to do that which others try to do and do not perhaps succeed so well as they."—*The Eagle, Brooklyn.*

Most of the Jewish papers in this country content themselves with quoting editorials from the secular and Christian press. *The Jewish Voice*, St. Louis, says: "Public opinion, after all, is, in America more especially, the true register of the condition of any movement. If anti-Semitism can be called a movement, it has been so unanimously condemned in America that any comment on our part adding to this general condemnation would be an adverse criticism on the Jews. We state this fact, not for the world at large, but for our own limited circles."

**Philadelphia Trolley-Car Strike.**—A strike among 6,000 employees of the Union Traction Company, a recent consolidation of the street-railway lines in Philadelphia, has resulted in a practical tie-up since December 17. The principal demand of the strikers is for recognition of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees; they also ask for two dollars for a ten-hour day and protection of motormen against the weather. A number of cars have been wrecked, and proclamations against violence have been issued by the mayor and the strike leaders. It is asserted that the cutting-off of transfer privileges by the Union Company has caused much of the sympathy manifested toward the striking employees by the traveling public. The company has steadfastly refused any settlement requiring recognition of the Amalgamated Association. The local press devotes itself particularly to denouncing mob law. *The Public Ledger* says, "The re-establishment of law and order is now the only question." *The Times* declares that the conductors and motormen have been grievously deceived and misled by demagogic leaders. *The North American* says that the company "must not at the expense of the community play a waiting game, hoping to wear the strikers out, and win in the long run. The rights of the public are paramount. They have been ignored too long." *The Commercial Advertiser*, New York, takes this opportunity to say: "The solution of the problem of a satisfactory system of street railways, under which the public shall have such a service as they need and are entitled to, and under which there shall be no strikes and tie-ups, no seasons of violence and danger and inconvenience and interruption of business, lies in the municipal ownership of the street railways. When we have this, we shall have a better service and lower fares. There will be no interest on millions paid to original owners for franchises that were a free gift from the city. The experience of New York with the rapid transit system will surely lead to universal municipal ownership of street railways."

**A Chief Justice Takes the Law into His Own Hands.**—Chief Justice Snodgrass, of the Tennessee Supreme Court, resenting a criticism upon one of his decisions published in a newspaper by a prominent lawyer, John R. Beasley, visited the office of the latter and, drawing a revolver, fired at him twice, one shot taking effect in Beasley's arm. The condemnation of the act is severe and general. It is denounced as a disgrace to the State and its judiciary. *The Nashville American*, while declaring that the charges made against Justice Snodgrass by Beasley are unfounded and unjust, says that nothing can excuse the assault. It continues: "A judge owes a duty to the entire State as a conservator of the peace and an upholder of the law, and secure in the knowledge of his own honesty, integrity, and uprightness should pay no attention to the shafts of malice and slander. Chief Justice Snodgrass has placed himself in a most deplorable and unfortunate attitude, that of the Chief Justice of the highest court of the State taking the law into his own hands, and he has thus aided in striking a blow at the majesty of the law which he is looked to to aid in supporting. By his action the entire State suffers." *The Springfield Republican*, calling attention to the fact that Tennessee is preparing a great exposition to celebrate the centennial of her admission into the Union, remarks: "What mean these horrible lynchings which, like Jefferson's fire-bell in the night, alarm every thoughtful and law-abiding citizen! What means this astounding foray of the Chief Justice himself, who tramples and spits upon law to avenge a petty personal spite! This is not civilization; it is barbarism. The South, the whole South, not Tennessee alone, must be aroused to its terrible danger. Without law society can not exist, and without respect for law things move on to chaos."



## POLICE CORRUPTION IN PHILADELPHIA.

A MUNICIPAL investigation similar to the memorable Lexow investigation in New York has been proceeding for some time in Philadelphia, and the disclosures brought to light, especially in the Police Department, point to a condition which is generally regarded as little better than that which existed in New York prior to the election of Mayor Strong and the appointment of the new Police Board, with Mr. Roosevelt at the head. Bribery, corruption, an alliance with crime, and regular protection of vice and lawlessness are the charges that a number of trustworthy witnesses have made against the Philadelphia police, and the press does not question the truth of the accusations. The New York Times editorially summarizes the reports of three days' testimony given by well-known clergymen, members of the Law and Order Society, and detectives. We quote from it as follows:

"It appears that the unlicensed saloons and houses of ill fame are protected, defended, and openly frequented by the police. The unlicensed saloons are called 'speak-easies.' The city appears to be full of them. Policemen may be seen standing in front of such places while drunken men are passing in and out. Violators of the license and Sunday laws, when arrested, escape punishment by some 'mysterious influence.' . . . Occasionally a raid is ordered, in response to repeated complaints, but the guilty persons are warned beforehand by the police. A story was told about the blunder of a new policeman who did his duty in a case of this kind before the warning could be received. For his ignorant zeal he was 'broken' by his superiors. Another who had offended in the same way was arraigned on a charge that he had been drunk on a certain afternoon. He was one of the Rev. Mr. Gibbons's parishioners, and at the very time specified in the accusation he was in Mr. Gibbons's house, consulting with him as to the baptism of one of his children. But the clergyman's testimony and influence were of no avail. An appeal was made to the mayor, but he refused to interfere. The man was 'broken' because he had not permitted a gambling-house to be warned before he entered it.

"A detective testified that to his positive knowledge there were 280 disorderly houses in only one police district, the Eighth. He submitted a list of these and of 346 others. In some places there were extremely bold and demoralizing exhibitions of vice. 'The conditions,' said the Rev. Mr. Gibbons, 'were simply indescribable.' The effect upon school-children was pointed out. 'There is very little chance,' said Mr. Gibbons, 'for a boy without a Christian home. They are ruined, many of them, before they are sixteen years old.' Speaking of one school, he said: 'The good people in the neighborhood seem to be utterly disheartened. Once, when the School Board was nearly divided, there seemed to be some hope for better things, but one of the ward leaders took a crowd of twenty-five roughs to the meeting and overawed the respectable element. Two years ago we asked the board to appoint a committee of two to go with us and look at the schools. They agreed to do so, but the committee has never been appointed.' This clergyman has complained repeatedly about 'a house of the lowest character immediately behind his church,' but to no purpose.

"There was much testimony concerning the hopeless attitude of respectable people living in districts where disorderly houses are protected by the police. They have learned not only that 'it is useless to complain' to the authorities, but also that complaint makes their condition worse, because they are punished afterward by annoyance in one way or another, and the police enjoy their discomfiture. . . .

"Concerning violations of law in the Chinese quarter there was testimony that twenty-three gambling places were running, each paying fifteen dollars per week for police protection. As to disorderly houses elsewhere, witnesses testified that police officers were frequently seen entering them.

"It was shown that at primary elections and delegate conventions the police, obeying only 'the boss of the ward,' canvass for votes, assist in the commission of fraud, and exclude persons whose votes are not desired. 'When the conventions assemble,' said the committee's counsel, 'they stand around the doors and throw out men whom they regard as obnoxious, and see that the nomination is made as they are instructed or as they desire. At the general elections they stand by and see crimes committed

against the election laws, and repeaters voting under their eyes.' All this was confirmed by the testimony of lawfully chosen delegates to conventions—men whom the police had excluded or 'thrown out.' It was shown that in one ward, the boss, whom all the police obeyed, stood outside of the election place and directed the movements of the officers by a nod of the head. The political contests in question, it should be explained, were between opposing factions of the Republican Party."

The Times makes the following comment on the results:

"Everybody knows that Philadelphia is a Republican city—a city in which the Republican Party has controlled the Government continuously by great majorities. This is a picture of municipal misgovernment, corruption, protection of vice and crime, protection of fraud at the polls, demoralization of the young, and subjection of respectable citizens to the forces of immorality, in a city ruled now, as it has been for many years, by the Republican Party, and the picture is drawn by a Republican committee and a Republican press."

The lesson of these disclosures, according to the Boston Herald, is that no party can be held responsible for corruption, because civic corruption knows no politics and no principles. It says further:

"In New York city, under the control of Tammany Hall, the victory at the polls has commonly been a Democratic victory, and hence the greater part of the municipal plunderers in that city are stanch Democrats. In Philadelphia the city elections have uniformly brought to the polls a Republican majority, and thus in Philadelphia the boodlers almost to a man are Republicans. But this classification can be made without a reflection upon either party, since, if the official rascals in Philadelphia were transferred to New York, or those in New York were transferred to Philadelphia, in order to get into a congenial atmosphere they would probably undergo a political conversion as sudden as that of Saul of Tarsus."

## TOPICS IN BRIEF.

Now, what's the world a-coming to?  
I think it's awful—that I do!

The "jingoes" grow in monstrous flocks,  
An' there's no end to "jabberwocks;"

The "cuckoos" coo in ev'ry tree,  
An' "blatherskites" swarm swarin'ly;

"Degenerates" on ev'ry hand—  
They're overrunnin' all the land!

And ef the "fit" survive alone—  
The race of man will soon be gone!

—Commercial Appeal, Memphis.

"THAT," said the curator, "is a suit of ancient armor—450 years old."

"Don't see what they wanted of it. They wasn't no trolley-cars ner bicycle fiends in them days."—The Journal, Indianapolis.

It has been noted that while God has been referred to as both male and female in the Woman's Bible, the devil remains male throughout. Why don't they divide him up also?—Iowa State Register.

It looks as if Secretary Carlisle and some of the country's other financiers did not study the same arithmetic.—The Star, Washington.

THE pen of the President is mightier than his shotgun, the opinion of the ducks of North Carolina to the contrary notwithstanding.—The Transcript, Boston.

"OUR country, right or wrong!" Yes, yes, a thousand times and forever Yes!

Our President, right or wrong? Well, that is a different matter.—The World, New York.

WE shall have to hold on to the greenbacks so that they can carry us through another war.—The Constitution, Atlanta.

SPEAKER REED can not give all his Maine colleagues chairmanships, but Boutelle and Dingley might be pacified with a foreign war.—The Record, Philadelphia.

THE women have modestly refrained from claiming that their Bible is inspired.—The Press, New York.



THE REAL BRITISH LION.

—Eaening World, New York.

## LETTERS AND ART.

IDEAS AND FANCIES OF THE LATE  
ALEXANDRE DUMAS.

WHEN Dumas *fils* was received at the Académie Française, the late Comte d'Haussonville pointed out what he considered to be the weak character of his work, saying: "You have introduced us to a world which, I think, does not exist. It is an exceptional world, I am persuaded; for I am convinced that whatever exceptions there may be, such as you have described with all the witchery of your pen, in the world we live in, honor in man and purity in woman is the idea we all cling to, and which you yourself unconsciously worship." Some, however, says *The Westminster Gazette*, seem to think that in speaking thus d'Haussonville did Dumas considerable injustice. From the same paper we quote as follows:

"Opinions may and do differ, of course, about Dumas's work, but it is interesting to hear from himself what part he wished to play in French contemporary literature. Upon one occasion he expressed himself in the following terms:

'I am neither God, nor apostle, nor philosopher, nor mountebank. I am a man who, in passing, looks, sees, feels, reflects, hopes, and says or writes what strikes him, in the clearest, most rapid, and most convenient form. If the style is not always irreproachable, the thought is always perfectly sincere, for I should prefer to till the acre of ground my labor has procured me rather than utter a word I did not think. I often wound conventionalities, established ideas, and the prejudices of society; but I write for those who think as I do. It is useless to combat the opinions of others. One may succeed sometimes in vanquishing people in a discussion, but never in convincing them. Opinions are like nails: the more one hits them on the head the deeper one drives them in. Our power is restricted to repeating what appears to us to be the truth.'

"Much of Dumas's work was written very quickly. He used to say that he always had his dramas completed in his mind before he took up his pen. The third act of 'Héloïse Paraquet' he wrote in three hours between breakfast and dinner. His *modus operandi* was to devote twenty quarto sheets of paper to each act, save the last one, which he finished in seventeen sheets, in virtue of his father's sound advice, 'Surtout, le dernier acte court.' When he got to the end of his allotted number of sheets he knew the act was long enough, and he brought it to a conclusion."

The difference between Dumas *père* and Dumas *fils* was once summed up sententiously by the latter to an English critic thus:

"I inherited my instinct for the theater from my father; but our manner is not the same. My father was born in a poetic and picturesque epoch; he was an idealist. I came into the world in a period of materialism; I am a realist. My father took his subjects from dreamland; I take mine from life. My father worked with his eyes shut; I work with them open. He withdrew himself from the world; I identify myself with it. He sketched; I photographed. You would search in vain for his models; mine are to be met everywhere."

To quote again:

"As may be supposed, Dumas had not a very high opinion of

women. 'Pooh-pooh,' he once said, 'a woman marries a man because she likes him, or doesn't marry him if she does not; that's the beginning and the end of their analysis. I am surrounded by women, now mothers and grandmothers, whom I knew as girls. I have been able to observe very closely how much is implied by marriage. The day that woman is given the same rights and privileges as man she will despise him. Until that time she is dependent on him. What is more farcical than the institution called marriage? . . . Women regard it as a liberator. It prefixes "Madame" to their names, and takes them away from papa and mamma, of whom they are no doubt very fond, but whom they are delighted to leave.'

When Mrs. Mona Caird wrote 'Is Marriage a Failure?' he was asked his opinion, and expressed himself in almost similar terms to those quoted. In this connection reference may be made to a letter by Dumas which was placed at the head of an anonymous pamphlet, 'Le Retour du Christ.' In it M. Dumas made this profession of faith: 'I think that without Mary Christianity would have triumphed more rapidly; it is she who embarrasses it. She shall never be my intermediary between my God and myself.'

Dumas was often asked why he did not write his memoirs, and he answered the question some years ago, in the *Revue Illustrée*, by saying:

"I do not write my memoirs because a man can not write his own memoirs without writing those of others or without hiding from his own eye that which the reader ought most to know. Those of whom I should have to write would rather that I were silent, and I have no desire to write about myself. The laurels of Jean Jacques and of Casanova do not prevent me from sleeping soundly at night—on the contrary. It is, however, permitted to draw episodes from one's personal souvenirs which time has formed into a whole, to which nothing more is to be joined, which form one more lesson on the absurdities of human life, and which can no longer hurt or do injustice to anybody."

*The Gazette* says, in conclusion:

"Those who knew him best were always ready to affirm that Dumas was particularly kind to young beginners, whether actors, authors, or artists, who rarely appealed to him in vain either for advice or assistance. He scorned politics, and was always, as his position enabled him to be, very independent. Under the Second Empire the Duc de Persigny once asked him to write a cantata for the opera in honor of the Emperor's fête-day. He replied that it was not for him to open his mouth while such great poets as Hugo and Lamartine declined to sing. For long—indeed he may have done so to the last—M. Dumas signed himself *fils* out of veneration for his father. Latterly he complained that he was growing old and disinclined to work. Moreover, he said 'I have arrived now at an age when the best thing a man can do is to hold his tongue.' And now the tongue is silent forever."

"S. D.," writing from Paris for *The Evening Post* (New York), under date of December 4, gives the alleged cause of Dumas's aversion to the priesthood:

"In France the clergy, who are so constantly rebuffed, are only too willing to bury religiously any baptized person who has not



ALEXANDRE DUMAS FILS.



expressly refused their offices. Against this Alexandre Dumas had taken his precautions, to the scandal of his many Conservative friends and the sudden comfort of the Radicals whom he detested. 'No priests, no soldiers, no speeches!' is the exact formula of the directions he left behind for his funeral. This has in consequence been reduced to the bare ceremony of a crowd of notabilities assembling to see him put under ground in the cemetery of Montmartre. The reason of this unexpected wish of the great writer, who had been a close and appreciative friend of Catholics like Louis Veuillot and Bishop Dupanloup, has leaked out. It was due to the officious bungling of a celebrated pulpit orator whom over-confident friends had schemed to introduce to the keen-minded dramatist. The occasion was the union of one of Dumas's daughters with a family given to religion. The zealous ecclesiastic improved the occasion to speak out his mind knowingly about the many reserves which Catholics would have to make as to the moral speculations with which the younger Dumas filled his works. The latter perhaps prided himself on being the moral teacher of young France, in which he was certainly unlike his father, who cared only for a good story and was a priest-hater and active *carbonaro*. Besides, the unseasonable discourse might have broken off a marriage to which he held, by arousing undue susceptibilities on the part of the other family. As it was, when the indiscreet speaker wound up by assuring him, 'I have read all your works,' Dumas answered brusquely, 'No one would say so!' and abruptly withdrew. From that time, so it is said, he cherished the fixed idea to keep clear in life and in death of all clerical neighborhood."

The same writer says that a distrust more evident in his pieces, of whatever period of his life, is that of woman in general. We quote again:

"Meilhac has just been making public some very Frenchy stories of conversations on this subject between Dumas and Maupassant, to whom the elder writer had taken a great fancy. In giving his young friend the freedom of his table, he added: 'You will always find at my house passable champagne and people no stupider than elsewhere—and no women!' The foundation of this unnatural sentiment is said to have been laid in his youth by a heartless deception, after which he swore that he would not be caught again. Yet he was flattered and followed by the sex all the days of his life, as if wishing to prove the truth of his words, 'Woman is an unreasonable being, a subaltern, and evil-doer!'"

#### CHARACTER AND INFLUENCE OF CARLYLE.

FOR years to come, the character of Carlyle and the influence of his work will be food and inspiration for essayists who, like himself, regard the great questions of life from the standpoint of moralists. "In a time like our own," says Mr. William Roscoe Thayer in the December *Forum*, "when literature on either side of the Atlantic lacks original energy; when the best minds are busy with criticism rather than with creation; when ephemeral story-tellers and spineless disciples of culture pass for masters, and sincere but uninspired scholars have our respect but move us not, we shall do well to contemplate anew the man who by his personality and his books has nobly swayed two generations of the English-speaking race, and who, as the years recede, looms more and more certainly as the foremost modern British man of letters." Mr. Thayer asserts that among the masters of British prose Carlyle holds a position similar to that of Michel Angelo among the masters of painting. "Power—elemental, titanic, rushing forth from an inexhaustible moral nature, yet guided by art—is the quality in both which startles our wonder." And he says that sufficient time has now elapsed for us to perceive that "Carlyle belongs to that thrice-winnowed class of literary primates whom posterity crowns." Mr. Thayer takes an ample inventory of Carlyle's substance, through all of which we need not follow him, contenting ourselves with a few comprehensive thoughts, such as the following:

"He had, as the discerning Goethe said of him, unborrowed principles of conviction, by which he tested the world. He felt

the compulsion of a great message entrusted to him. There rings through most of his utterances the uncompromising 'Thus saith the Lord' of the Hebrew prophets—a tone which, if it do not persuade us, we call arrogant, yet which speaks the voice of conscience to those who give it heed.

"Here, then, we have the corner-stone of Carlyle's influence. Our world is a moral world; conscience and righteousness are eternal realities, independent of the vicissitudes of any church. If we seek for a definite statement of Carlyle's creed, we shall be disappointed; he never formulated any. After breaking loose from one prison, he would have scoffed at the idea of voluntarily locking himself up in another. He held that to possess a moral sense is to possess its justification; that conscience is a fact transcending logic just as consciousness or life itself does. In the presence of this supreme fact he cared little for its genealogy. The immanence of God was to him an ever-present, awful verity."

Referring to the fearlessness with which Carlyle attacked the optimism based on "material prosperity," which brags of the enormous commercial expansion made possible by the invention of machinery, and boasts of the rapid increase in population from decade to decade, Mr. Thayer proceeds:

"These facts, he insisted, are not of themselves evidences of progress. Your inventions procure greater comfort, a more exuberant luxury: but do comfort and luxury necessarily build up character?—do they not rather unbuild it? Are your newly bred millions of bodies more than bodies? Take a census of souls, has *their* number increased? Tho your steam-horse carries you fifty miles an hour, have you thereby become more virtuous? Tho the lightning bears your messages, have you gained bravery? Of old, your aristocracy were soldiers: is the brewer who rises from his vats to the House of Lords—is any other man man owing his promotion to the tradesman's skill in heaping wealth—more worshipful than they? Let us not say that this amazing industrial expansion may not conduce to the uplifting of character; but let us strenuously affirm that it is of itself no indication of moral progress, and that, if it fail to be accompanied by a corresponding spiritual growth, it will surely lead society by the Byzantine high road to effeminacy, exhaustion, and death.

"A different gospel, this, from that which Carlyle's great rival, Macaulay, was preaching—Macaulay, who lauded the inventor of a useful machine above all philosophers! Different from the optimism—which gages by bulk—of the newspapers and the political haranguers! Different, because true! Yet, tho it sounded harsh, it stirred consciences—which smug flatterings and gratulations can never do; and it gave a tremendous impetus to that movement which has come to overshadow all others, the movement to reconstruct society on a basis not of privilege, not of bare legality, but of mutual obligations."

Observing that History, like every other branch of intellectual activity, has responded to the doctrines of Evolution, and after commenting at length on that line, Mr. Thayer comes to the consideration of the kind of history that Carlyle constructed, and says:

"Indubitably, history of the highest kind may be written from the evolutionist's standpoint, but as yet works of the lower variety predominate. Naturally, therefore, in a time when the development of institutions chiefly commands attention, Carlyle, who magnifies individuals, will be neglected. But in reality, histories of both kinds are needed, to supplement each other. All institutions originate and exist in the activities of individuals. The hero, the great man, makes concrete and human what would otherwise be abstract. Environment does not wholly explain him. It is easy to show wherein he resembles his fellows; that difference from them which constitutes his peculiar, original gift is the real mystery, which the study of resemblances can not solve. Men will cease to be men when personality shall lose its power over them.

"Accepting, therefore, the inherent antagonism in the two points of view—antagonism which implies parity and not the necessary extinction of one by the other—we can judge Carlyle fairly. Among historians he excels in vividness. Perhaps more than any other who has attempted to chronicle the past, he has visualized the past. The men he describes are not lay figures,

with wooden frames and sawdust vitals, to be called Frenchmen or Germans or Englishmen according as a different costume is draped upon them; but human beings, each swayed by his individual passions, striving and sinning, and incessantly alive. They are actors in a real drama: such as they are, Carlyle has seen them: such as he has seen, he depicts them. To go back to Carlyle from one of the 'scientific historians' is like passing from a museum of mummies out into the throng of living men."

Mr. Thayer closes his essay as follows:

"We will indulge in no vain prophecies as to Carlyle's probable rank with posterity. That a man's influence shall be permanent depends first on his having grasped elemental facts in human nature, and next on his having given them an enduring form. Systems struggle into existence, mature, and pass away, but the needs of the individual remain. Tho we were to wake up tomorrow in Utopia, the next day Utopia would have vanished, unless we ourselves had been miraculously transformed. To teach the individual soul the way of purification; to make it a worthy citizen of Eternity which laps it around; to kindle its conscience; to fortify it with courage; to humanize it with sympathy; to make it true—this has been Carlyle's mission, performed with all the vigor of a spirit 'in earnest with the universe,' and with intellectual gifts most various, most powerful, most rare. It will be strange if, in time to come, souls with these needs, which are perpetual, lose contact with him. But, whatever befall in the future, Carlyle's past is secure. He has influenced the *élite* of two generations: men as different as Tyndall and Ruskin, as Mill and Tennyson, as Browning and Arnold and Meredith, have felt the infusion of his moral force."

#### ANOTHER PLEA FOR MORALITY IN FICTION.

IN compliance with Mr. Grant Allen's recent announcement that hereafter his novels, in addition to the title proper, would bear the generic or family name of "A Hill-Top Novel," which he said was to signify "a protest in favor of purity," his latest story, "The British Barbarians," so duly appeared. The promised generic name is there, but *The Spectator* charges that the implied good morality is deplorably wanting. This writer, having read this new novel "with sorrow and amazement," feels constrained by a sense of truth and of duty to the public to say quite plainly that there is in it no protest in favor of purity, but a skit advocating free-love, suicide, adultery, and all sorts of offenses against law, morality, religion, and common sense. In a scathing criticism following this charge, *The Spectator* proposes to extend Mr. Allen's "Hill-Top" mark to "the whole class of kindred compositions," such as "The Heavenly Twins," "Daughters of Danäus," "Jude the Obscure," and "all other strange books which are written with a purpose, tho not a purpose that can be called moral, unless 'moral' and 'immoral' are henceforth to be accounted synonymous terms." Mr. Hardy is then arraigned, who "always seems to be saying" that "man is largely animal and woman is animal altogether, unless she is nothing at all—that is to say, what the newest faction in fiction calls sexless. Women do not elevate men, they lower them; and love and marriage cripple men's careers and complete their ruin." And after some ungloved handling of Mr. Hardy, the writer proceeds:

"But after all, the really interesting question is not whether the novel with a purpose generally is, or ever can be, a great work of art, but whether it is possible for a novel to be a work of art and not have a sound moral at the heart of it. And this consideration brings us to a part of our subject about which it is not altogether easy, tho it is particularly necessary, to be explicit. All who believe in a divine Creator of the universe, must of necessity believe that the moral and spiritual laws of the universe are expressed in whole or in part in every episode of man's life. But yet there is no more characteristic sign of our times than the reluctance of those who believe in God to take their stand boldly upon their faith, and all that it involves, in questions of art. The cultivated believer in God feels himself bound (by what unwritten law of courtesy we know not) to defer to the agnostic dogmatist the moment he sets his foot within the capri-

cious circle drawn by the art student and the art critic. And yet what more preposterous theory could be advanced than that which assumes that while it is a sin against art to paint incorrectly phenomena which are the outcome of the physical laws made by the Creator of the universe, it is no sin against art to treat arbitrarily the things of conduct and happiness which depend upon the spiritual and moral laws of the same Creator? To see life in its truth and its entirety is to see all these laws in their operation; and to paint life as it is shaped by them for good or ill is the obvious duty of the artist, especially if he aims at realism. But because the moral tale done to order has often succeeded in being dismally inartistic, the idea has got abroad—even among religious people—that there is some deep-seated and ineradicable hostility between the beauty and truth of art, and the beauty and truth of morality: and that to hold and confess the opposite opinion is to announce one's self a fussy Philistine. Whereas the truth of the matter really is that these inartistic moral tales are inartistic only because the writers of them lack some or all of the gifts that made an artist."

It is possible, continues the critic, to be very zealous for morality, and yet have no imagination, no insight, and no style. Why, then, he asks, should we be ashamed to say also that it is quite impossible to write a great poem or a great novel without a clear and true perception of the moral and spiritual laws of God as manifested in the life of the world He has created? We quote again:

"Behind and above all the conflicting opinions formed upon any human transaction, there is a truth known absolutely to God, if to none else; and that it is this truth that the artist has to see—not necessarily to understand all the history of it—but to see, and having seen, to celebrate it in painting, poetry, or song, so that thousands who only dimly suspected the truth before shall feel sure of it henceforth, and sure also that there is beauty in the truth. Being, as we are, certain that there is a moral in everything that happens, and that the moral is of God's meaning, we can not pretend to think it immaterial whether the artist believes or does not believe in God. And yet, remembering that three of the most convincing presentiments of the inspiring force and beauty of Christian character to which the literature of the last thirty years has given shape—Dinah in 'Adam Bede,' Turgenev's 'Lisa,' and the Roman soldier in Mr. Pater's 'Marius'—have proceeded from writers who avowed themselves agnostic; remembering these things, we are glad to recognize that even intellectual unbelief, so long as it does not paralyze the instincts of modesty, reverence, and tender human affection, need not close the avenues of the spirit to that kind of revelation which makes the testimony of the artist a thing independent of, tho not antagonistic to, the testimony of the moralist."

**Drawbacks to American Art and Culture.**—In a recent conversation with the editor of *The Bookman*, Mr. Hamilton Mabie expressed these sentiments:

"The significance and place of art have never been at all adequately understood in this country. Very few people, even among cultivated Americans, have grasped the real idea of art, so far have we grown away from it; and I think it is going to take a long time to make us understand that we shall not be finally successful on this continent until we have given expression to our life in some form of art. So long as we feel that the supreme fruit of true living is incessant activity, we shall not reach true living itself. As the deepest and most vital religious life shrinks most from professional forms, follows most closely natural channels, and separates itself instinctively from the use of the religious *patois*, so the richest and fullest national life is evidenced by depth of feeling, by breadth of personal resource, and by ripeness of spirit rather than by incessant activity. I think that one of the greatest hindrances to the spread of real culture in this country is the spirit in which the great mass of newspapers are now edited. So many newspapers deal so exclusively with the mere news side of things, and with the purely gossipy aspect of the news side, that they never come in contact with general principles, and never even suggest to their readers the sense of the relative values of events. In many of our newspapers there is no sense of proportion; the ephemeral, the vulgar, and the inane almost exclude a discussion or presentation of news that really contributes to the thought and growth of the reader. The habit of newspaper reading in this country stands in the way of the real culture of the great majority of men and women who have formed it."



## LETTERS OF MATTHEW ARNOLD.

IT does not seem to be generally believed that the "Letters of Matthew Arnold," recently collected and arranged by Mr. George W. E. Russell (Macmillan & Co.), will take rank in the higher performance of epistolary art. *The Nineteenth Century* for December contains a critical essay by Mr. John Morley on these letters, in which he sets out by recalling the excellence of such letter-writers as Cicero, Mme. de Sévigné, Cowper, Horace Walpole, Scott, Byron, Carlyle, Macaulay, Edward Fitzgerald, and others. He says:

"What place in this catalog will ultimately be taken by the two new volumes of the 'Letters of Matthew Arnold,' nobody can now decide. Those who looked for a grand literary correspondence, rich in new instruction, fresh inspiration, profound social observation, will be disappointed; and they deserve to be, for Arnold was one of the most occupied men of his time. Those, on the other hand, who had the happiness to count him among faithful and affectionate friends, and to whom his disappearance leaves a truly painful void in familiar haunts and meditative hours—and those others who know his books only, and would wish to know something of his personality—will not be disappointed at all, but will be grateful to the relatives who have consented to give to the world these memorials of a finer genius and a high and most attractive character."

Arnold's letters relate principally to political and social matters, tho literary judgments on contemporaries are not wanting. Thackeray was not, to his thinking, a great writer. The author of "The Angel of the House" is "worthy but mildish." The elevation of Tennyson above Wordsworth is "ridiculous." He does not think Tennyson a great and powerful spirit in any line—"as Goethe was in the line of modern thought, Wordsworth in that of contemplation, Byron even in that of passion." "Enoch Arden" is declared to be "very good indeed" and "perhaps the best thing Tennyson has done."

In summing up his estimate of Arnold as he appears in these volumes, Mr. Morley says:

"It is true to say that Arnold talked, wrote, and thought much about himself, but not really much more than most other men and women who take their particular work and purpose in life seriously to heart. He was not the least of an egotist, in the common ugly and odious sense of that terrible word. He was incapable of sacrificing the smallest interest of anybody else to his own; he had not a spark of envy or jealousy; he stood well aloof from all the hustlings and jostlings by which selfish men push on; he bore life's disappointments, and he was disappointed in some reasonable hopes and anticipations, with good nature and fortitude; he cast no burden upon others, and never shrank from bearing his own share of the daily load to the last ounce of it; he took the deepest, sincerest, and most active interest in the well-being of his country and his countrymen. Is it not absurd to think of such a man as an egotist, simply because he took a child's pleasure in his own performance, and liked to know that somebody thought well of his poetry, or praised his lecture, or laughed at his wit? As if a certain sheep-faced and insipid modesty, and spurious reserve in speaking of self, does not constantly conceal an egotism of the most intense and poisonous species. Somebody attacked him and somebody else defended him. 'I had rather it was not done,' he told his mother, 'as these bitter answers increase and perpetuate hatreds, which I detest.' 'Fiery hatred and malice are what I detest, and would always allay or avoid, if I could.' This is the great thing, after all, as nobody knows better than some of those who have by fortune of eager and great issues been drawn into too sharp contention.

"To refuse vindication on these terms, or almost on any terms, is not the temper of the egotist. 'To the last day I live, I shall never get over a sense of gratitude and surprise at finding my productions acceptable when I see so many people all round me so hard put to it to find a market. This comes from a deep sense of the native similarity of people's spirits, and that if one spirit seems richer than another, it is rather that it has been given to him to find more things, which it might have been equally given to others to find, than that he has seized or invented them by superior power and merit' (i. 228). There does not seem to be

much difference, and it is little more than a question of words, but such language in the intimacy of a letter to his mother illustrates Arnold's real modesty. What does it matter that he would often in honest gaiety of heart cry out, 'Did I say that? How good that was!'"

**A Reading Age.**—"Such surely may be pronounced the last thirty years of this closing century. Curious proofs abound. The very ash-barrels along the streets show it. So immense is the amount of printed literature thrown aside each day and week that men who dispose of city refuse insist that special receptacles must be given to the 'rejected manuscripts' of the household. Railway trains declare it. The brakemen and car-sweepers pick up each day scores and hundreds of books and newspapers cast away after perusal on the seats along the aisles of the cars. Growing lists of periodical literature overwhelm the seeker. A news-stand well furnished by some organization in the book trade offers a dozen attractions for any special intellectual desire. The presses groan with the mass of writing to be thrown into printed form, and publishers groan behind the press. The reading public seems, however, to devour everything. Some take even the trash, but an increasing circle is learning that in our brief life some careful selection must be made or the best reading will escape attention."—*The Christian Intelligencer*.

## NOTES.

IN the course of a talk with *Home Chat*, Mr. W. T. Stead recently repeated his opinion that "the majority of people don't read," and added: "I was talking to Mr. John Morley the other day, and during the conversation I asked him how many out of the forty millions of inhabitants of these islands he supposed did any reading. He said, 'About a million'; and I quite agreed with him." All these penny papers, added Mr. Stead, which some superior people grumble at so much, have done a vast amount of good, in that they have made certain persons read who, except for their existence, would never have read at all. In the course of the same conversation Mr. Stead, in discussing some of the qualities of present-day novelists, said he did not object to "blugginess." "It's only human to be attracted by blood. Putting together Homer and Rider Haggard, what acts from each on the reader but the 'blugginess'?" But, putting aside Homer and Rider Haggard, I may tell you that when I was a little boy I was always very fond of seeing pigs killed!"

If the relative popularity of books may be proven by the order of their sales at a given place, the following list will be of interest. *The Book-News*, Philadelphia, says that according to a record kept for one month in the Wanamaker book-store, the fifteen most popular books have been the following, in the order named: "Titus," by Florence M. Kingsley; "In the Days of Auld Lang Syne," by Ian Maclaren; "Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush," by Ian Maclaren; "Bachelor's Christmas," by Robert Grant; "Sorrows of Satan," by Marie Corelli; "Memoirs of a Minister of France," by Stanley Weyman; "Men of the Moss-Hags," by S. R. Crockett; "Casa Braccio," by Marion Crawford; "A Gentleman Vagabond," by F. Hopkinson Smith; "About Paris," by Richard Harding Davis; "The Second Jungle Book," by Rudyard Kipling; "Two Little Pilgrims' Progress," by Mrs. Burnett; "Knight of the White Cross," by G. A. Heritv; "Tiger of Mysore," by the same; "Through Russian Snows," by the same.

REFERRING to Miss Rhoda Broughton's recent celebration of her birthday, *The Westminster Gazette* says: "She has had a fairly long and successful literary career, and is still hard at work. Her earlier efforts, 'Cometh Up as a Flower' (1867), 'Not Wisely but Too Well' (1867), 'Red as a Rose is She' (1870), 'Good-bye, Sweetheart, Good-bye' (1872), are perhaps her most successful. In connection with her first work, there used to be a story told, which is probably as true as many stories of the kind. Miss Broughton's father was a clergyman in North Wales, and 'Cometh Up as a Flower' was written without parental knowledge. When a copy of the book arrived at the rectory, her mother, it is said, would not allow her daughter to read it!"

MRS. LYNN LINTON has in her time expressed her mind pretty freely about many persons and things. Now the interviewers have been catching it. The editor of *The Idler* has been asking some of the interviewed their opinions of interviewers, and Mrs. Linton, as was to be expected, comes out strong on the point. "Interviews and interviewers," she answers, "may stand as about the biggest nuisances, and the most futile failures of all at present patronized by this crazy age." And again, "The whole thing is the purest humbug from beginning to end."

THE right hand of the Russian painter, Verestchagin, is thumbless. His right thumb was bitten by a leopard some years ago, and had to be amputated. The middle finger also of his right hand is lamed and useless, as the result of a shot-wound which the artist received on the battle-field. More than this, the small bones of the center of his right hand were also partially shattered by a fall on the Russian steppes, and his right arm was broken in the same accident. Nevertheless, it is with this damaged right hand that Verestchagin paints his wonderful pictures.

"H. T. P." says, in a letter to *The Bookman*: "Altogether, if the office of Laureate be something more than a petty insular distinction, if it is to become one of the innumerable symbols of Anglo-Saxon unity, a possession of Greater Britain, and if our whole race could choose its occupant, it is unthinkable that the choice should be a matter of any doubt, or should single out another name than that of Rudyard Kipling."

## SCIENCE.

## WHAT HOLDS THE OCEAN IN PLACE?

THIS question, like many others that appear silly at first sight, is really a serious one. We are apt to think that since a liquid will always "find its own level" when left to itself, it will do so under all possible conditions. But this is not so. Prof. T. J. See tells us (*Popular Astronomy*, December) that on a gravitating sphere such as our earth, the surrounding liquid will be in equilibrium only when it is less dense than the sphere itself. Were it otherwise—were our ocean a mass of quicksilver, for instance—it might gather itself up into a great ball and go rolling about regardless of consequences. Says the Professor:

"As the profound researches of Lord Kelvin and G. H. Darwin on the long period oceanic tides show that the earth's mass as a whole is 'more rigid than steel but not quite so rigid as glass,' we may in the present discussion consider the earth as a solid spheroid surrounded by a mass of fluid kept in equilibrium by the pressure and attraction of its parts. Among the many important problems illuminated by the sublime genius of Laplace, not the least interesting is that which treats of the equilibrium of the sea, and the conditions which render this equilibrium stable. Laplace has treated this question with a very profound analysis in the '*Mécanique Céleste*;' and has shown that the stability of the equilibrium of the sea depends upon the circumstance that the waters of the ocean have a smaller density than that of the solid spheroid around which they are wrapped in thin, irregular layers of variable form and depth."

By means of a diagram, which we have not space to reproduce here, Professor See now shows that when a solid sphere is surrounded by a lighter liquid one the result of their mutual attraction is to cause the latter to arrange itself evenly about the former. He expresses the conclusion thus:

"If we suppose an earthquake or some other catastrophe to disturb this equilibrium, it is clear that whatever temporary disaster might result from the supposed derangement, the accustomed order would soon be restored by the law above indicated, and the figure of the sea would again become stable. Such is the marvelous provision of universal gravitation for the stability of the world, as made known by the genius of Laplace. It is clear that without this investigation we could not have the least assurance of the stability of the oceans which covers three fourths of the solid terrestrial spheroid; and we might be led by mere fancy to suppose that a disturbance of the figure of the earth would result in a destruction of all the conditions which perpetuate life upon the planet."

Repeating now his geometrical reasoning for the case where the surrounding shell is heavier than its included sphere, Professor See shows that if it is once thrown a little out of center, gravitation will tend to increase the irregularity:

"The action of the whole mass will tend to carry the particles toward the side where the fluid is already heaped up; accordingly the arrangement of the fluid will become still more unequal than it is at present. Therefore we conclude that if the density of the fluid surpasses that of the solid nucleus the equilibrium will be unstable, and even if the two masses be concentrically adjusted the slightest disturbance will cause the fluid to pile up on one side of the nucleus, which will protrude its opposite face above the surface of the receding liquid. From this we see that if the oceans were converted into quicksilver and the terrestrial spheroid were to retain its present density, the fluid surrounding the earth would be in an unstable equilibrium, and the slightest disturbance, such as an earthquake or the tides arising from the disturbing action of the sun and moon, would cause this liquid sheet to pile up in one great mass, which might roll about over the earth whenever new conditions of equilibrium were brought about by the action of extraneous forces. The present oceans would thus be largely exhausted by the superior attraction of the fluid for itself, and the earth would protrude from the mass of mercury; or, what is the same thing, the dense and unstable fluid would not spread around the entire earth, as do the present waters of the sea in their admirable adjustment to conditions of permanent stable equilibrium."

## STILTED SCIENTIFIC PHRASEOLOGY.

THE "big words" of science are often necessary and useful, expressing what can not be made clear to the student in any other way, but they are sometimes mere verbiage and mean no more than their common equivalents. It goes without saying that in this latter case the true scholar uses the short, plain word. He who writes in six-syllabled words for the mere pleasure of astounding the multitude is not apt to have very much solid thought to express. Some very good advice on this subject, which is worthy the serious attention of other scientific men than students of medicine, was recently given to the students of the Chicago Medical College by Dr. Edmund Andrews, in an introductory address, afterward printed in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* (Chicago, November 3), from which we quote a few paragraphs:

"It is amusing and yet vexatious to see a worthy medical gentleman, whose ordinary conversation is in a simple and good style, suddenly swell up when he writes a medical article. He changes his whole dialect and fills his pages with a jangle of harsh technical terms, not one third of which are necessary to express his meaning. He tries to be solemn and imposing. For instance, a physician recently devised a new instrument, and wrote it up for a medical journal under this title, 'A New Apparatus for the Armamentarium of the Clinician,' by which heading he doubtless hopes to make the fame of his invention 'go thundering down the ages,' as Guiteau said.

"Another writer wanted to say that cancer is an unnatural growth of epithelium. He took a big breath and spouted the following: 'Carcinoma arises from any subepithelial proliferation by which epithelial cells are isolated and made to grow abnormally.' Now, then, you know all about cancer.

"A writer on insanity illuminates the subject as follows: 'The prodromic delirium is a quasi-paranoiac psychosis in a degenerate subject. A psychosis of exhaustion, being practically a condition of syncope.'

"The following is an effort to say that certain microbes produce the poison of erysipelas: 'The streptococcus erysipalatosus proliferating in the interspaces of the connective tissue is the etiologic factor in the secretion of the erysipelatosus toxins.'

"A large cancer of the liver was found at a post-mortem examination and reported about as follows: 'A colossal carcinomatous degeneration of the hepatic mechanism.'

"Still, the man of big swelling words is not always up in the clouds. If called to a case of accident, he examines the injury, and may inform the family in quite a simple and dignified manner that their father was thrown sidewise from his carriage breaking his leg and putting his ankle out of joint, but if he writes out the case for his medical journal, he gets up straightway on his stilts and says: 'The patient was projected transversely from his vehicle, fracturing the tibia and fibula and luxating the tibio-tarsal articulation.'

"Your man of solemn speech is peculiar. He does not keep a set of instruments—not he—he has an armamentarium. His catheters never have a hole or an eye in them, but always a fenestrum. In gunshot injuries, a bullet never makes a hole in his patient, but only a perforation. He does not disinfect his armamentarium by boiling, but by submerging it in water elevated to the temperature of ebullition. He never distinguishes one disease from another, but always differentiates or diagnoses it. His patient's mouth is an oral cavity. His jaw is a maxilla. His brain is a cerebrum, his hip-joint is a coxo-femoral articulation. If his eyelids are adherent, it is a case of ankylo symblepharon. If he discovers wrinkles on the skin, they are corrugations or else rugosities. He never sees any bleeding, but only hemorrhage or sanguineous effusion. He does not examine a limb by touch or by handling—he palpates or manipulates it. If he finds it hopelessly diseased he does not cut it off—that is undignified. He gets out his armamentarium and amputates it."

*The Journal of Inebriety* estimates the total number of drunkards in America at 1,600,000. There being about twenty-five millions of adults in this country, this means that one person out of every fifteen drinks to excess, and is consequently more or less of a drunkard. The journal thinks that this estimate is a very modest one and rather under the mark than above it.



## BACTERIA IN THE DAIRY.

IN a recent article on the Pasteurization of milk (*THE LITERARY DIGEST*, December 21) the writer showed how important it is to remove the injurious germs without killing also those that are beneficial. Some further information on this and kindred subjects is contained in the following from *The Lancet*, December 7:

"That we may count upon microbes sometimes as our friends and sometimes as our enemies is well illustrated in the bacteriology of milk and milk products. The milk may leave the udder perfectly sterile, yet a few moments of contact with the air, and especially the air of insanitary surroundings, are sufficiently long to be the starting-point of the development of a whole microbial menagerie. By fission alone—that is, by splitting in two, and by the resulting two dividing again in the same way—one bacterium may become the parent of over sixteen million bacteria in twenty-four hours. The composition of milk is such as to be most favorable to the growth and development of organisms, pathogenic and non-pathogenic. Some are detrimental to the healthy condition of the milk itself, or, in other words, milk has its own diseases to contend with. Experience is ever teaching how imperative it is that the strictest care should be taken to protect milk against the possibility of microbial invasion. The risks of pollution are great, and may arise from an unhealthy or dirty condition of the cow, or of the stall, or of the milker's hands and clothes. The air of the cow-house is frequently made insanitary by cleaning it out and dislodging dirt just previously to milking, and another source of contamination is the diluting of the milk with unwholesome water which may be infected with typhoid fever or cholera poison, or by placing the milk in dirty vessels, or by exposing it to the atmosphere of warm and unhealthy places, as cupboards. With these possibilities of pollution in mind the advantages gained by sterilizing or Pasteurizing milk by boiling are evident. Particularly is this so in the case of bottle-fed infants, the lives of many of whom would be saved from fatal diarrhea, so frequent in artificial rearing, were these precautions taken. The same lesson is taught by the fact that mother's milk is sterile. Altho boiling will destroy the disease-producing germs in milk, it may still leave spore-bearing bacteria, which in course of time would produce undesirable changes in the milk itself and render it unwholesome."

So much for our bacterial enemies. But they are not the only germs contained in the liquid. The article goes on to tell us:

"There are friendly germs to be found in milk whose functions can be cultivated and turned to account in the production of an acceptable flavor in cream and in butter. After clearing the milk or the cream of competing organisms by Pasteurism it is sown with a pure culture of lactic-acid-producing organisms. The flavor of the butter and, moreover, its keeping qualities being dependent upon the character of the souring process undergone by the cream preparatory to churning, a uniform product acceptable in both these respects may be obtained by proceeding carefully on these lines. The inculcation of these methods among dairy-farmers would add an impetus to the milk products industry and probably bring it into a greater state of prosperity."

**Telephoning with Bare Conductors Laid Along the Ground.**—"For many years," says *The Railway Review*, "bronze wire has been used by the German Postal Telegraph Administration as a conductor for telephone lines, on account of its conductivity being superior to that of the usual iron or steel wires. Besides bronze wires covered with copper, a number of German makers have also brought out numerous double-metal wires, under the names of compound wire, bimetallic wire, double-metal wire, double-bronze wire, and patent bronze wire, etc. These wires have a core of steel or aluminum-bronze, with a high tensile strength, and are covered with copper or bronze of a high conductivity. Experiments with these wires were made in order to see if they could compare with bronze wire for telephonic purposes, both in respect to their mechanical and electrical properties. . . . The results obtained do not go to show that the double-metal wires are any more valuable than the pure copper wire, but that the distance to which telephonic transmission by bare wires laid upon the earth is possible depends mainly upon the size and weight of the wires, presuming all the conditions are similar."

## A NATURAL MUMMY.

UNDER the title "Mummification by Natural Agents," a correspondent of *Cosmos* (Paris, November 30) gives the following interesting description, with the accompanying illustration, reproduced from a photograph:

"It seems worthy of interest to inform you of the discovery, in a barn, under a hay-mow, of a mummified cat."

"The mummification is complete. There remain only the solid substances. The skin, changed to parchment, reminds one of the wrinkled skin of a baked potato at the moment when it begins to brown. The natural orifices are very much dilated by the stretching due to the drying, and it is probably to the same cause that we must attribute the drawing apart of the lips, which gives to the wide-open mouth a horrible expression of pain. In the inside may be seen through the orifices masses of dried membranes, like the roots of a dead plant. What is most astonishing in this mummy is the complete disappearance of the hair. Perhaps this is due to the attacks of insects. "The animal weighs only 150 grams [ $\frac{1}{3}$  pound]. A live cat of this size weighs  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 kilograms [ $5\frac{1}{2}$  to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  pounds], that is to say, sixteen to twenty times as much. The photograph is pretty good, but it shows but imperfectly the emaciation and flattening of the organs."—Translated for *THE LITERARY DIGEST*.



MUMMIFIED CAT.

## REDISCOVERY OF THE SUN-GAS.

WE chronicled not many months ago in these columns how helium, the sun-gas—so-called because it had been found by the spectroscope in the sun and had never been found elsewhere—had been discovered on earth as a constituent of certain minerals. Thus one more link has been forged between our far-off center of attraction and ourselves, and a writer in *The Edinburgh Review* (October) thinks that the discovery is a happy omen for celestial chemistry, that is, the science that investigates, by means of the spectroscope, the materials of which the sun and stars are made up; for in this science "unknown elements" were becoming alarmingly numerous. Of the present outlook *The Review* speaks as follows:

"It [celestial chemistry] had unquestionably, during the last decade, become somewhat overcast. Important instrumental improvements were turned to the utmost account in the precise determination of countless dark and bright lines in the spectra of sun, stars, and nebulae; but chemical recognitions were comparatively infrequent. Mistaken identities, it is true, were corrected; and this was in itself a gain of the most essential kind. But the substitution of avowed ignorance for merely ostensible knowledge, tho laudable, and to the lovers of truth eminently welcome, is not inspiring. 'Unknown lines' were becoming ominously abundant. Appeals to the laboratory anent their interpretation met no response; it almost seemed as if science had, in that direction, reached the end of its tether. Comparisons of terrestrial with celestial spectra had lost much of their interest. Significant coincidences between them grew scarce; nor was it unreasonable to suppose that incandescent globes contained forms of matter non-existent on a cool planet. Theories of 'dissociation' through excessive heat, as well as of the gradual formation of our 'elements' out of some ultra-material substance—probably the universal ether—were besides rife; and, if true, opened a chasm between the chemistry of the earth and the chemistry of the stars."

"The detection of helium has dissipated most of these appre-

hensions. Everything now once more seems possible; and hope and vigor have been renewed together. The road of future progress is now plain and open; it will be traversed by eager pilgrims. There can no longer be any mistake as to the kind of work likely to prove fruitful. The alphabet is at hand, out of which to spell answers to the outstanding riddles of cosmical physics. Argon and helium are unlikely to be alone in their peculiarities. They belong to a group of gases *superannuated* (if we may venture to say so) here, while still active in wider scenes. 'In certain stages of stellar evolution,' as Mr. Lockyer expresses it, they are of paramount importance; while on planetary globes they exist scantily and obscurely, fulfilling no obvious function. But now 'time's revenges' have brought them once more to the front. Additional members of the class may, before these lines are published, be literally *unearthed* from scarce minerals or volcanic products. Any day, we may hear that the prison-bands of 'coronium'—the chief material of the sun's corona—have been unloosed; or that the enigmatical nebular stuff, which has baffled so many inquiries, has arisen from under our very feet; or of any one of a hundred analogous identifications. The barriers once broken are likely to go down on all sides, leaving the assailants free to dash in, and loot what they can. We await with deep interest the outcome of their incursions into what was, a few months back, a secluded and inaccessible territory."

#### ANCIENT ENGINEERING IN NORTHERN GREECE.

THIS is the age of great engineering works, and we are so thoroughly cognizant of that fact that we are apt to forget that there were great engineers in antiquity. They built neither suspension bridges nor transatlantic liners, but in masonry constructions and drainage-works they were in many respects our equals. Those who doubt should read an article on the recently discovered remains of some great Greek engineering works, contributed to *Appleton's Popular Science Monthly* by John D. Champlin. We quote a few paragraphs below:

"Strabo says: 'The spot which the present Lake Copaic [northern Greece] occupies was formerly it is said, dry ground, and was cultivated in various ways by the Orchomenians, who lived near it.' This traditional account, about the only record of the prehistoric condition of the Copaic basin we possess, would seem to imply that it was kept dry artificially, and we find a partial explanation in other passages in which he describes certain subterranean caverns and fissures through which the waters were carried off. 'If the subterranean passages are stopped up, the waters of the lake increase so as to inundate and cover cities and whole districts, which become uncovered if the same or other passages are again opened.' The memory of such a catastrophe, caused by the stoppage of the natural conduits, the result of seismic disturbances, as Strabo intimates, or from want of care in consequence of political disturbances, is embalmed doubtless in the tradition of the Ogygean Deluge, Ogygea being the original name of Boeotia. A similar trouble must have occurred about the time of Alexander the Great, who appears to have contemplated the reclaiming of the basin. Strabo says: 'When the outlets were again obstructed, Crates, the miner, a man of Chalcis, began to clear away the obstructions, but desisted in consequence of the Boeotians being in a state of insurrection, altho, as he himself says in the letter to Alexander, many places had been already drained.'

"These statements of Strabo would lead to the inference that the drainage of the basin by the ancients consisted only in keeping free from obstruction certain subterranean passages through which the waters flowed to the sea; and this would probably have been the conclusion to-day but for the recent efforts of the Greek Government to reclaim the submerged lands. These efforts, under the supervision of experienced engineers, have resulted in nearly draining the basin, and have led to the discovery of a complete ancient system of hydraulic works dating from so remote a period that all record or tradition of their construction has been lost. This system, so vast and comprehensive as to excite the wonder of modern engineers, taking into consideration the primitive appliances of the ancients, served to convert this now miasmatic basin into a fruitful plain, the home, a thousand years before our era, of a thriving and numerous population."

#### EDISON ON THE TRIALS OF INVENTORS.

THOMAS A. EDISON, in an interview reported in *The Monthly Illustrator* by R. R. Wilson, condemns our patent system in unmeasured terms. He says that he has lost money on every one of his inventions, considering them purely as inventions, and has made his fortune by manufacturing. Mr. Edison advises the young inventor not to attempt to get a patent, but to keep his invention secret and manufacture it himself. After enumerating some of the celebrated processes of manufacture that have never been patented, but are kept secret, often being transmitted from father to son, as has been done in the great Dupont powder works, Mr. Edison spoke as follows:

"No sooner does an inventor make known some important mechanical discovery by applying for a patent than a pirate comes along and steals it. Years pass before the case comes to trial, and in the mean time the practise of the courts gives the pirate the benefit of the doubt. Many patents are decided in the inventor's favor only when the patent is about to expire, and has therefore become almost worthless. This is all wrong. The courts should give the man who first secures a patent or first makes application for it the benefit of the doubt until the question of priority has been finally passed upon and settled. As it is now the pirate staves off the trial from year to year and the poor inventor is robbed of his due, but if the change I mention was made, patent cases would be speedily brought to trial and in most instances justice done to all. When it is made, as it is sure to be sooner or later, there will be a rush of invention and discovery in this country such as we have never seen. Under the present conditions, however, not the big but the small inventions, a new toy for children, an improved lamp-burner, and the like, are the ones that are making the most money. Their insignificance protects them against the pirate, who fails to discover that there is money to be made by stealing them. Still, my advice to a young inventor would be to study the expensive operations of all large factories—every operation, you know, is expensive in proportion to the number of men required—and try to devise a machine with which fewer men could do the work. The wealth of the modern world has been made by labor-saving machinery.

"The end has not yet been reached in this field, and it is still possible for a young inventor to devise a machine for some operation essential to the manufacture of steel which would save the labor of a number of men. Then if he went into the manufacture of that one product on his own account, he could hold his own with all the other manufacturers and undersell them as long as he kept his machine a secret. There is no better method by which the inventor in these days can get the full benefit of his invention."

**Recent Flashlight Photography.**—"Naturalists have been doing some clever things by the aid of photography," says *The American Journal of Photography*, November. "A Western sportsman has been for years making a collection of photographs of all kinds of wild animals in their native haunts, and many of these pictures, especially of animals about to spring at their intended prey, have been taken under conditions that made the skilful handling of the rifle highly necessary the instant after the camera was snapped. Another enthusiast has devoted himself to photographing the animals of the forest in their nightly wanderings. He would set a wire in the path of the animal he wished to photograph, and adjust the camera so that as the animal came along and made contact with the wire blitz-pulver was ignited, and in the flash the picture was taken. In this way some beautiful specimens of deer in all sorts of attitudes, of mountain lion, badgers, opossums, etc., have been secured, and many new features have been developed of great interest to the naturalist. M. Bontan, the European naturalist, who studies the wild life of the Mediterranean in the garb of a diver, has succeeded in taking some photographs of the sea bottom. He uses a flashlight obtained from a spirit-lamp and magnesium powder, which is covered by a water-tight bell-jar. The lamp stands on a barrel containing oxygen gas, which he employs to work the lamp and the pneumatic shutter of the camera. He breathes through the supply-pipe of the diving-dress. The camera is water-tight and stands on a tripod near the barrel, so that the shutter and the flashlight can be worked together."



## HOW A WATER-DROP SPLASHES.

THE splash made by a drop of water as it falls on a hard surface seems a common and simple thing. Common it is, no doubt, but simple it certainly is not. It is so complex, and withal so interesting, that Prof. A. M. Worthington has written a book in which this subject alone is treated. What he has found to write about in it may be understood from the following paragraph from a review in *Knowledge*, December 2:

"Professor Worthington has been studying the curious phenomena for twenty years. The splash of a drop occurs in the twinkling of an eye; yet it is an exquisitely regulated phenomenon, and one which very happily illustrates some of the fundamental properties of fluids. The problem which Professor Worthington has succeeded in solving is to let a drop of definite size fall from a fixed height in comparative darkness on to a surface, and to illuminate it by a flash of exceedingly short duration at any desired stage, so as to exclude all the stages previous and subsequent to those thus selected. The numerous illustrations in the volume testify to the accuracy and beauty of his work. The curious results of the splash of a drop of mercury from a height of three inches upon a smooth glass plate are particularly interesting. Very soon after the first moment of impact, minute rays are shot out in all directions on the surface with marvelous regularity. From the ends of these, minute droplets of liquid split off. The liquid subsides in the middle, and afterward flows into a ring. The ring then divides in such a manner as to join up the rays in pairs. Thereafter the whole contracts, till the liquid rises in the center, so as to form the beginning of the rebound of the drop from the plate. Immediately the drops at the ends of the arms now break off, while the central mass rises in a column which just fails itself to break up into drops. He photographed no fewer than thirty successive stages of the splash within the twentieth of a second, so that the average interval between them was about the six hundredth of a second. Remarkable are the splashes of water-drops falling about sixteen inches into milk, but more beautiful are the dome-forms when the height is fifty-two inches."

**Eye Diseases of Coal-Miners.**—According to an article in *Gluckauf*, translated and condensed in *The Engineering and Mining Journal*, December 14, the disease known as nystagmus appears to have been first known about 1860, and it has been noticed that it has increased since then in all coal-mining countries. "The principal symptom of the disease is that the miner, after a long shift, finds his sight unsteady, and his light appears to be in continual movement. A short interval of rest is sufficient to remove this unpleasant sensation. When the disease is more acute, the miner is attacked at his work, and finds that he can not see to hold his tools; he has headaches; and, finally, can not walk straight. Any attempt to see things by ordinary light above the horizontal level brings on the nystagmus. In one district, Dr. Nieden examined 11,145 men, and found that 3.6 per cent. suffered from nystagmus. The proportion between those coming from work and those going to work was as 4.1 to 3.1 per cent. All those who have studied the subject agree that the disease is confined to those men who mine the coal, and who lie cramped up in a lying position, very often having to look upward. The muscles of the eye can not bear the excessive strain, which is aggravated by the poor quality of the light. It has been noticed that nystagmus is much more frequent in mines where safety-lamps are used than it is in mines where there are naked lights. As evidence of the important part that the quality of the light plays in connection with the disease, it is said that at the Rhein Elbe collieries in 1877, when naked lights were used, 0.7 per cent. of the men suffered from nystagmus; three years later, after safety-lamps had been introduced, the percentage rose to 3.05. The author has no doubt that the introduction of a better light in mines would reduce the disease."

**AN AUTOMATIC TICKET-SELLER.**—*Herapash's*, London, describes an automatic appliance for the delivery of railway tickets, which, it says, bids fair to hold a respectable place among similar devices. The machine works with absolute correctness, and dates as well as issues the tickets. "It is particularly useful where a number of tickets has to be issued at fixed fares, such as for local passenger traffic. Some time ago a machine was fixed in the Homerton Station of the North London line for the issue of workmen's tickets, and, as the directors have asked for further machines, the presumption is that the experiment has proved satisfactory."

**Strength of Metals Shown by Their Melting Point.**—"M. Pictet remarks," says *The Railway Review*, "that pure metals with high melting-points, such as platinum, iron, copper, and gold, are all comparatively strong, and that, conversely, metals having low melting-points—zinc, lead, bismuth, and tin—are relatively weak; that metals with high melting-points must necessarily be coherent and tenacious, because much heat is required to drive their molecules apart in reducing them to the liquid mobile state in which the molecules have very small coherence, and therefore at ordinary temperatures much force must be applied to overcome the cohesion of the molecules and break the mass. On the other hand in metals with low melting-points a slight elevation of temperature will overcome the molecular cohesion and render them liquid, that is, will melt them. Such metals will be weak, because if little heat is required to melt the metal, less force will be needed to tear it apart; hence melting-point and tenacity are clearly connected. It is also shown that the tenacity of pure metals and alloys is greatly increased by extreme cold, that is, by the closer approximation of their molecules, proving that metals become stronger at temperatures farthest removed from their melting-point."

**A Simple Test for Impurity in Water.**—"Decaying organic matter is never found in appreciable quantity in pure water," says Floyd Davis, in *The Engineering Magazine*, December. "If to a glassful of such water a few drops of sulfuric acid and a few drops of a dilute solution of potassium permanganate be added a permanent pink color is produced; but, if the water contains decaying organic matter then the pink color becomes fainter and finally disappears. In the hands of an expert this is an important test, but it can not be relied on with a novice, since ferrous sulfate, hydrogen sulphid and other reducing agents, sometimes present in water, produce similar results. But, when a water shows an excess of chlorine and bleaches potassium permanganate, it is certainly suspicious, and should be analyzed by an expert. My advice in all cases where persons seek counsel is to make the experiments given above, and, if the results are not satisfactory, to send the water to an experienced chemist, with necessary information regarding its source, and have a thorough analysis made."

## SCIENCE BREVITIES.

"SMOKE is not gaseous, as it is often unscientifically considered, but a cloud of solid particles suspended like dust in the air," says *The Engineering Magazine*, in reviewing an article on smokeless gunpowder. "Anything that burns completely into a gas generates no smoke. Efforts have long been made to produce powder that will not produce smoke in burning. Not only in the military art, but in mining and quarrying, is such an explosive desirable, provided that, for the latter purpose, the gases produced shall not possess materially deleterious properties. For military purposes it is also necessary that the powder should have good ballistic power, and that the chemical action of the gases upon the material of which gun-barrels are made shall not be injurious. A number of smokeless powders exist, but they do not all meet these necessary requirements."

A FORM of magnet whose poles adapt themselves to the irregular surfaces of a piece of iron to be lifted, is described and illustrated in the *Electrische Anzeiger*. According to an abstract in *The Electrical World* it "consists of a bar of iron, around which are a number of iron rings or collars fitting it closely, between which are placed the coils encircling the iron bar, the current being such as to make alternate poles of the successive rings. The bar is lifted horizontally, and in the lower part of each of the rings there is a short, thick, iron cylinder which has a limited vertical movement; these iron cylinders will project more or less beyond the lower edge of the rings, so as to adapt themselves to an irregular surface of an iron piece to be lifted."

"THE aluminum vessels now in use in the French army are found to wear very little," says *Knowledge*. "They can be heated over gas and coal, and are not attacked by the food and wine, etc., as the food does not remain long in the vessels. Flasks in which ordinary water is kept for months show whitish spots near specks of impurities—iron, carbon, etc., and on the soldered portions if other metals have been admixed. The vessels are made simply by stamping, without soldering, except at the handles. In salt water, corrosion of the metal proceeds more quickly than in fresh water; it becomes black, but sulfuric acid restores the original brightness."

ELECTRIC-LIGHTING has made numerous contributions to sanitation. Dr. Saunders, medical officer of the London Board of Health, says that it has done much toward making the employees of commercial and manufacturing establishments healthier. "Faces that were pale and wan from work in gas-lighted basements, stores, and shops are much improved since the introduction of electricity. The heat from the gas-jets and poor ventilation are responsible for much sickness. It is also shown that in the same city the electric light has lessened crime. Darkness breeds wickedness and light dispels it."

## THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

## THE CHURCH PRESS ON THE WOMAN'S BIBLE.

THE appearance of the first part of the so-called "Woman's Bible," edited by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others, has called out, as might have been expected, the disapproving comment of the religious press. This disapproval has been couched in strong terms and is practically unanimous. This edition of the Bible, it will be remembered, has been "purged of all invidious distinction of sex." It excludes from its pages the story of Eve's creation, "edits out" a part of the conversation between Eve and the serpent, and makes numerous other omissions and alterations to bring the text "into conformity with modern ideas of the status of woman." But what gives as much offense as anything else is the statement by Mrs. Stanton in the preface, that she does not believe in the "divine authority" of the Scriptures, nor that the Old Testament or the New was inspired, and that she does not believe that woman's emancipation is possible as long as she accepts the position assigned her in the Christian or any other religion, for "all the religions on the face of the earth degrade her." The method under which the work of revision was carried on savored also, it is charged, of irreverence. This method, according to Mrs. Stanton, was as follows: "Each person purchased two Bibles, and ran through them from Genesis to Revelations, marking all the texts that concerned women. The passages were cut out and pasted in a blank-book and the commentaries were written underneath. On this particular point a writer in *The Universalist*, of Chicago (Rev. Mary J. Delano), says:

"The audacity of the plan suggests the old adage of those who break in where angels even fear to tread. Nothing but entire ignorance of the hold which the Bible has upon the affections of Christian people, lack of knowledge of modern Biblical research, of the higher criticism, could excuse any one in adopting such a method in commenting on the Scriptures. When one remembers the reverent attitude of mind, the wisdom, the wide learning, the patient comparison of texts, the inquiries into contemporaneous history, the painstaking research which characterized the eminent scholars who gave us our new version, and which continued for twenty years, and contrasts this with the flippant, almost vicious attack upon sacred things by these women, one is humiliated beyond measure; especially if she be a woman hoping for the best for her sex. Mrs. Stanton has been compared to Colonel Ingersoll; but it is doubtful if even he could have used language more irreverent."

In further comment on the project as a whole, Mrs. Delano says:

"No woman of reverent mind and true Christian feeling can contemplate with anything but sorrow the appearance of this book, of which Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton is the instigator and editor. No woman who sincerely honors Mrs. Stanton for the work she has done in lifting so many of the legal disabilities under which the sex has suffered for so many generations can help feeling that in taking up a work for which she was so ill-prepared and so incapacitated, by reason of prejudice and a lack of learning, from doing well, she has made the greatest mistake of her life, and one vital in the direction in which she has so long labored. Those of us who knew Mrs. Stanton best, and her peculiar prejudices concerning the influence which the Bible and Christianity have had upon the political status of women, were prepared for anything she might say against them, but not for the flippant, irreverent way in which she has said it."

In an editorial upon the "New Bible" itself, *The Sabbath Recorder* (Seventh-Day Baptist) says:

"Had Mrs. Stanton been satisfied to make the proper and rational interpretations of the Scripture, rather than to condemn it, and all ministers who even read it from the pulpit, it would have seemed more modest, to say the least. A fair and just interpretation of the Scriptures will not degrade any woman. It is in Christian countries that woman receives her greatest elevation

and freedom from the bondage in which she is held where the light of the Gospel does not shine. There may be, and we honestly believe there are, just grounds for complaint that she is still denied some rights and privileges to which she is entitled. But it is a great mistake to attempt to slide the responsibility off on the Bible. This is an error which will react fearfully against the cause in which Mrs. Stanton has expended her best efforts for the past fifty years. We do not predict a very large demand for the 'Woman's Bible.'"

In the same general line are the comments of the *St. Louis Observer* (Cumberland Presbyterian). It says:

"It will arouse the opposition of all who love and reverence the Bible as a consistent whole. Those who are ready to lay sacrilegious hands upon the Word of God are but a feeble few. The women have taken courage from the attitude of those daring critics who have run their pens through so many passages as interpolations or emendations of ignorant editors. But they are a little more consistent than the critics. Where the scholars have used the blue pencil the women have boldly employed the knife. The work of taking to pieces the greatest book ever written has begun. How long it will continue no one can predict with any safety, but it is safe to say that those women who reject any part of the Word of God as authoritative will end by denying it all. We are profoundly sorry that the women, who owe all they are to the influence of the Word of God, have dared to assail its integrity."

Referring to a particular utterance in the book *The Congregationalist* says:

"We wonder whether the advocates of a larger use of silver in our currency will welcome the assistance of Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who interpolates her comment upon Gen. xxiii. 16, in that fearful and wonderful book, the 'Woman's Bible,' as follows: 'That Abraham paid for all this in silver "current money of the merchant" might suggest to the financiers of our day that our commercial relations might be adjusted with the same coin, especially as we have plenty of it. If our bimetalists in the halls of legislation were conversant with sacred history they might get fresh inspiration from the views of the patriarchs on good money.' Either this is the most deliberate irony or Mrs. Stanton ought, by parity of reasoning, to accept the practise of the patriarchs as suggestive upon the 'woman question.'"

*The Western Watchman* (Roman Catholic, St. Louis) contends that Mrs. Stanton is a fair representative of Protestant orthodoxy, and that her system of Bible revision is entirely in harmony with Protestant ideas of "a progressive system of truth." It continues:

"Protestantism is fast losing every vestige of the supernatural and is becoming the spirit of man embodied in forms of worship and phrases of evanescent conviction. Truth is not eternal nor is veracity any attribute of the Deity. The religion of the Protestants will soon differ in nothing from that of the Japanese, the Chinese, and the Hindus. These have their sacred books and their progressive revelation, and their Vedas are as much inspired as our books of Moses. The Catholic preacher need take no further account of Protestantism. His duty is to teach religion to Protestants, and he must begin where he would begin with a class of Mongolian children. The Bible will soon be sent back to Rome, whence it went forth to the modern world, and in future it will be classed as a popish book and combated as containing only Romish superstition from Genesis to Revelation. It was fetish, a divinity, three hundred years ago; it now lies broken, like another dragon, at the feet of modern Protestant enlightenment. Mrs. Stanton can kick it and spit on it, and there is none to say nay."

*The Catholic Mirror* (Baltimore) says:

"The 'Woman's Bible' is receiving but scant favor from the sex for which it has been prepared. No good Christian woman will give it countenance. The ladies of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Richmond, Va., have lost no time in putting themselves on record in regard to it. At a meeting a few evenings ago resolutions were adopted condemning this fantastic product of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lillie Devereaux Blake, and in the last clause of the resolutions these Richmond ladies say: 'We accept the place given us in God's Book with joy; that



we believe the attempt to mar the perfectness of the Holy Scriptures for personal reasons or self-aggrandizement is a sin. Therefore, that for this movement we have no sympathy—only sincere and sorrowful condemnation.”

### IS THERE A GREAT REVIVAL COMING?

THE direct prophecy of a fourth great revival among the American churches has not been uttered, but hints of its approach are becoming frequent. Thus *The Advance* (Congregational, Chicago) notes with gratification that “the thoughts of many Christians are turning with longing hopefulness to a future, and that not distant, which shall witness a great spiritual awakening.” It says that “there are signs in the sky that the coming of a new and larger kingdom is at hand;” that the churches, “tho not living up to the heights of spiritual attainment and effectiveness which belong to their duty and privilege, have fairly emerged from the militant state which is a sure sign of declension, and have come into a condition of peace if not of life.” The next great awakening, it says, will go a long way toward the conquest of the world, “for the world now lies at the feet of the Christian church.” “It will be a conquest for the subordination and consecration of wealth, the purifying of politics, the comforting of the poor, the reclaiming of the desert wastes of heathendom.”

The three great revivals which have already marked the progress of evangelization in America are reviewed in detail by Dr. Daniel S. Gregory in the closing paper of his series on “The Preacher and Preaching for the Present Crisis,” in *The Homiletic Review* for December, from which we condense as follows:

“The first era of American revivals was that under Edwards and Whitefield and their successors, contemporaneous with the movement in England under Whitefield and the Wesleys, and dating back to 1740. In the Great Awakening, as it has been called, Edwards, Bellamy, and their contemporaries planted themselves solidly on the assumption and distinct reaffirmation of the authority of the Word of God. They met the ultra-Arminianism and churchly legalism by appealing to Paul’s doctrine to the Romans in analogous circumstances—the doctrine of *justification by faith* in the divine Redeemer. This was the one common burden of the preaching of the day. As essentially connected with justification, tremendous stress was laid, in this era, upon the condemning power of the law, and the lost condition of the sinner, in order to leave the sinner hopeless, unless he could obtain justification through the righteousness of the crucified Savior, and find refuge in Him; while the necessity for the new birth was emphasized, in order to bring the formal and godless professor to despair of deliverance and salvation except by the power of the Holy Ghost. . . .

“The second era of American revivals—that in which President Dwight, Dr. Edward Dorr Griffin, and others were among the leaders in its earlier phase; and Drs. Nettleton and Finney the leading revivalists in its later phase—may be reckoned from 1797, and it extended well into the nineteenth century. A period of backsliding and moral defection followed the Great Awakening. The errors and sins of this period were again of a peculiar character. The leaders in the reaction—such men as Dwight, Griffin, and the elder Mills—fell back once more upon the Bible, assuming, affirming, or proving by unanswerable arguments its divine authority, and they directed their preaching intelligently against the prevailing errors and sin. The peculiar dogmatic feature of this era, appearing to a large extent in all the preaching, was necessarily the *sovereignty of God*. The people had largely revolted against God, and needed to be made to feel to the utmost that there is an infinite God, above all and controlling all, and the arbiter of future destiny. . . .

“The third era of American revivals began with the great awakening of 1858. It was a revival among the people. It made revivalists rather than was made by them; and has been estimated to have added a million members to the churches. This religious awakening came in a most unusual way, and took on an entirely new aspect. The previous movements were intimately connected with some special presentation of dogmatic truth, or with the appearance of great leaders; but the revival of 1858 came

as one result of the pressure of a peculiar providence. A great financial crisis had some time before prostrated the industries of the country; the depression continued and increased until vast numbers, left without work, were on the verge of abject want. In their despair they were driven to turn to God in prayer. New York city, the center of commercial depression, was the place in which the movement originated. The Fulton Street Noon Prayer-Meeting, established October 8, 1857, with a layman, Mr. J. C. Lanphier, in charge, was the point of origin. That meeting was itself an inspiration. In three months after it was opened the great revival had already begun. In six months ‘Noon Prayer-Meetings’ had spread across the continent, in all the cities and centers, and the revival went with them.”

Dr. Gregory says that the revival of 1858 transformed the life and work of Protestant Christendom, and gathered its forces together to hold them in readiness for some mighty future enterprise; that the church of to-day is confronted by such an enterprise, having as its end a fourth era of revivals in which everything promises to be on a grander scale. He then proceeds to define the doctrinal preaching which will be absolutely necessary for hastening the coming of this fourth era. We brief his points as follows:

First, the divine authority of the Bible, and the supreme and sovereign authority of God. Secondly, the requirements and obligations of the Law of God. Thirdly, justification by faith and regeneration by the Holy Spirit. Fourthly, necessity for a new baptism by the Holy Spirit. Fifthly, the present and immediate obligation of the church to give the Gospel to all the world. Sixthly, necessity that the ministry and the officers of the church should take their places as the called, appointed, and authorized leaders and directors in the Gospel work that must be done.

### THE GREEK PATRIARCH ON CHURCH UNION.

IT is well known that Pope Leo XIII. has been very anxious to have the two great Catholic churches, the Greek and the Latin, reunited after their schism and separation of a thousand years. Months ago an official invitation went out from the Vatican addressed to the dignitaries of the Oriental Church, asking for negotiations on this proposed reunion.

The reply from the Patriarch of the Greek Church, Archbishop Anthimus, of Constantinople, and signed by ten other bishops of the Anatolian Church, has been issued, and has been published broadcast in ten thousand copies, so that there may be no uncertainty as to the position of the writer and the Greek Church he represents in regard to the burning question at issue. The reply is an emphatic declination to take part in any reunion project between Rome and Constantinople, as long as the former will not recant of its errors and false teachings. The document says, among other things, this:

“An honorable war is better than a peace without God.”

This war is now to be carried on by the Greek against the Latin, and also against the Protestant churches, as has been the case all along, in fact ever since the schism of Photius in the tenth century. The reply declares that at that time Rome adopted innovations contrary to tradition and the Scriptures, while “the great Oriental Church” has been content to adhere to the teachings of the Fathers. Anthimus says:

“Who would not desire a reunion? The Oriental Church in its daily prayers petitions for the return of the scattered and erring brothers. But a reunion with Rome is impossible as long as these errors, accepted since the tenth century, are not recalled and the church returns to the seven Ecumenical Councils and their teachings. Unless this is done it is useless and without purpose to speak of a union between the two communions.”

Anthimus then proceeds to give a list of the doctrines in which he regards Rome as teaching falsely. Naturally the doctrine of the procedure of the Holy Ghost from the Son as well as from the Father heads the catalog. Then, too, he mentions baptism by immersion, the use of leavened bread in the Eucharist, in the celebration of the Supper the giving of both bread and wine to the participants, etc. He condemns as innovations of the Roman

Catholic Church the doctrine of purgatory, the application of the meritorious works of the saints to those who are dead; the dogma of the immaculate conception; the doctrine of the primacy and the infallibility of the Bishop of Rome.

Further, the author of this remarkable document denies that the Popes have done anything worth mentioning for the conversion of the Slavonic peoples, as Cynthus and Methodius, the two apostles of the Slavs, were sent from Constantinople and not from Rome.

At the close of his writing, Anthimus addresses the people of the West in these words:

"Ye who love Christ, we greet you with joy and admire your zeal for Christ, called forth by the conviction that it is impossible to please God without having faith. On the other hand, it is clear to every one who understands matters aright, that the true faith in Christ must in all particulars be orthodox and be in harmony with the sacred Scriptures and with apostolic traditions, upon which foundation the holy Fathers stand, and must also agree with the teachings of the seven Ecumenical Councils."

### CHURCH FEDERATIONS.

WHILE the outlook for a union of any number of the various sects of Christendom upon a basis depending upon belief can not be considered as promising, several plans are under consideration for a federation of churches for practical work. One of these plans is that proposed by the Massachusetts Committee of Congregational ministers, a body having for its chairman the distinguished writer and reform leader, Edward Everett Hale. This plan involves cooperation in parish work, especially in the charge of "outlying families." There is scarcely a town in any State, it is said, in which, particularly at a distance from the center, there are not certain families which fall under nobody's ministerial care. It is urged that some method be devised by which ministers of Congregational churches might agree on a plan for a visitation of these outlying families. They might thus be brought under somebody's sympathetic care. This subject of cooperation was brought up for consideration in many towns throughout New England at the union meetings on Thanksgiving Day. *The Congregationalist*, *The Evangelist* (Presbyterian), *The Christian Register* (Unitarian), *Zion's Herald* (Methodist Episcopal), and other denominational journals heartily commend this project. In New York city a federation of Christian churches for practical work among the poor and churchless masses has already been established and will soon be in active operation. All the Protestant denominations are uniting in this federation and the work is under the direction of some of the most earnest, devoted, and experienced pastors and laymen of the city. Closely allied with this movement is the Federation of East Side churches and missions which has been at work successfully for a year or more in the tenement regions of New York. Combinations of churches for similar purposes have recently been formed in Detroit, St. Louis, and other Western cities, chiefly under the inspiration of the Evangelical Alliance of America, which devotes itself largely to this particular service. The aim in all these federations or local alliances of churches is an increase of strength and efficiency in mission, charitable, and general religious work by a concentration and cooperation of forces. Discussing one of these plans of church federation for application in country towns, *The North and West* speaks of some of the things which may be accomplished, as follows:

"It does seem to us that when a town has a thousand people and a dozen churches there is something akin to a serious sin in the schism. The extreme division entails great loss upon the individuals who compose the little flocks; loss upon the pastors who serve them with penniless pockets and disappointed hearts; loss upon the morals and religion of the community in which the leaders work at cross-purposes with each other, rather than in unity. The losses far exceed any possible gains.

"It is not wise to undertake too much at first. The Roman Catholics unite their various schools of thought, which are as

diverse as our denominations. The so-called liberal denominations, which deny the divinity of Christ or the danger of the second death, can not be given standing among the evangelical churches; tho most of their individual members, by wise and patient treatment, might be profited by worshiping with orthodox churches. Foreigners who do not speak the English language are apt to be clannish; but by providing afternoon services for them in their own tongue, and welcoming them to English meetings, great gains would be made in every way.

"One hundred and fifty denominations might as well be reduced to the seven churches of America: Baptist, Congregational, Episcopalian, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic. Except the latter all these might be federated into one body in every town. This federation would involve the exercise of charity and brotherhood in a practical way. Christians would have to recognize that forms and ceremonies were matters of taste and conscience; that the intent of the worshiper was the chief thing before God. Majorities and minorities would have to bear with each other in minor matters.

"If one house of worship was large enough for all the evangelical population who could attend church at one time, that might suffice; provided each one would respect the liberties and convictions of others. There might be two or three pastors and two or three places of worship, and any number of voluntary societies connected with the once church of Christ in that town. If one pastor would immerse those who felt that this was the only proper way for them to be baptized, and these would permit others to follow their own conscience and light as to the subjects and mode of baptism, the worst problem would be solved.

"Those who wished to say Amen should be permitted to do so, without any criticism. It might warm up a frigid hour a little. Those who wished to work with the Epworth League or the Baptist Society could do so. They could provoke each other kindly to good works, as home and foreign mission societies do. They could maintain the positive principles for which they stood, without attacking other truths for which others stood. Denominations are not opposed to each other; they are complementary to each other. No one sect can reach all kinds of minds, or emphasize all sides of truth. But the federated church would do this more fully."

### DECADENCE OF DOGMA.

AN eminent English divine recently declared that much of the weakness of modern Christianity comes from the general indifference to the intellectual aspects of Christian doctrine; that theology is dethroned from her position as queen of the sciences; that ministers are even applauded for attacking in the pulpit what they were ordained to preach; and that multitudes of church-going people are densely ignorant of the very rudiments of theology. "This utterance," says the *New York Observer*, "may sound like a jeremiad and be counted a pessimistic wail by many readers, but beyond any doubt there is a strong element of truth in it. The decadence of dogma in our generation is too significant to be overlooked by the careful student of the tendencies of the times." The writer continues:

"How to account for this decadence is not so simple a matter as it appears at first to be. Part of the cause is to be found in the intensely practical spirit of our generation, which is apt to lessen the emphasis on dogma and strengthen the emphasis on conduct. Superficial thinkers are early led astray by the popular fallacy that it does not matter what a man believes if he only does right. Conduct is exalted to the supreme place, and creed is relegated to a very secondary position. The folly of such a course of procedure is apparent on reflection. How can a man know what is right and what he ought to do unless he has a well-defined belief concerning duty here and destiny hereafter?

"Another factor in the decadence of dogma is the place given to so-called practical preaching in the pulpits of the time. There seems to be an avoidance of great truths and a seeking after the little truths bound up in the lessons of current events, and philosophizing about the Gospel instead of proclaiming the Gospel in all its simplicity and fulness. The unpardonable sin in a sermon in our day is dulness, and a desire to be interesting is a will-of-the-wisp which leads many a minister into the marshes of theological



decadence. Under the influence of a morbid dread of being commonplace and of a juvenile passion for originality, men avoid the great highways of Christian thought and wander off into by-paths which, however pleasant, do not lead into the secret place of the Most High. Fuller experience of life and keener realization of the sacred urgency of the message entrusted to their care must teach such ministers that they are deliberately excluding themselves from the subjects which in all ages have exerted the profoundest influence on the moral and spiritual life of mankind. If any permanent effect is to be produced by preaching, there must be the vigorous and frequent attempt to put before the people the great truths of the Christian faith in their native dignity and power.

"Like pastor, like people," says the old adage. It holds true in the matter under discussion. There was a time when two or three men could not meet by the fireside or on the wayside without reasoning high

'Of Providence, foreknowledge, will, and fate,  
Fixed fate, free-will, foreknowledge absolute.'

That time has passed away, and discussions range on the lower levels of gossip, politics, and the questions of the hour. With its passing there has gone out of the Christian life of our generation a solidity of thought and strength of conduct for which our fathers were famous. A revival of dogma would, we believe, do much to bring both back, and restore to many a pulpit a large measure of its waning power."

#### GROWING POWER OF RITUALISM IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

THE recent dedication of the new Protestant Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin, in this city, will, says *The Tribune* (December 15), be taken by many as an indication that the ritualistic movement is growing in the Episcopal Church. The editor regrets that there are no statistics at hand to settle this question, but says further that a perusal of the denominational organs makes it evident that the tone of churchmanship has been generally raised during the last twenty-five years, and, on the whole, to the great advantage of the church; that the service in the average parish to-day is more reverent and less slovenly than in the old days of "High-and-Dry" churchmanship, while at the same time it has been so enriched as to appeal more strongly to the growing esthetic sense in the community. We quote the remainder of the article:

"But everybody knows that ritualism has come to mean much more than a deepening of the old spiritual lines in the Episcopal Church. Its ultimate ascendancy in the church would be nothing less than a revolution, in which almost every distinctive characteristic of the Protestant Episcopal Church would disappear, and in its place would arise a reproduction of the medieval church. The Oxford movement in 1832 began by defending and explaining itself. It felt that it must fight even for a tolerated existence, and for some years it seemed as tho, in spite of all its efforts, it would find no permanent lodgment in the Anglican Communion. But that day of apology and defense has passed. Instead of trying to show that they are not dishonest quibblers and traitors, the leaders of the ritualistic party have now got to the point of denouncing as dishonest quibblers and traitors those in the church who interpret its doctrines in the light of modern critical investigation and modern life. This change of attitude is in itself a striking indication that, in its own opinion at least, ritualism has grown to a position of power. It is no longer a question whether it shall be driven out of the church, but how long it will be before it will drive everybody else out of the church.

"The really strange feature of the situation is the meekness with which it is accepted by the Broad Churchmen and Low Churchmen, who constitute the overwhelming majority in the Episcopal Church. Once in a while some of them venture to say that they are not disloyal tricksters, and occasionally, as in *The Contemporary Review* for December, an old-fashioned churchman has the courage to declare and prove to his own satisfaction that the ritualists are both disloyal and dishonest, because, as he says, they hold and teach doctrines distinctly repudiated in the prayer-book. But, as a rule, whether because they think ritualism merely a

passing fad, or because they secretly believe it to be the best expression of the church's system, the non-ritualists in the church have let it pretty much alone during the last few years. If ritualism fails to become dominant in the church, it will not be because of any organized opposition it has encountered; for there is no such opposition.

"Tho ritualism has thus conquered for itself a secure place in the Episcopal Church, there is little possibility of its ever doing more than that. The insuperable obstacle to its acceptance by the church as the exclusive type of churchmanship is the fact that it is a recrudescence of outworn religious ideals. Doubtless it has an attraction for people of a certain religious temperament, those who love to dwell on the past, or who appreciate the esthetics of religious worship. Its doctrines and beliefs, however, will appeal in vain to the vast majority of the men and women of to-day who live in the present and for the present, and who are striving, however imperfectly, to free the world from the abject slavery to the past, which did so much to weaken and benumb the church of pre-Reformation times."

**First Woman Pastor in New England.**—The statement having recently been made by *The Church Union* that Mrs. Amelia B. Frost, of Littleton, Mass., is the first woman whom any New England church has made its pastor, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore corrects the mistake in the columns of the same paper (December 15), by giving a list of ten women ministers and pastors whom she has known in Massachusetts during the last thirty years and prior to the installation of Mrs. Frost. We quote what Mrs. Livermore says in relation to New England's first woman pastor: "Mrs. Frost was ordained to the ministry of the Congregational Church more than a year ago and was installed as pastor of the church at Littleton less than a month ago. I have had personal acquaintance with over twenty women ministers of New England, who have been regularly ordained and then installed over parishes. The first woman minister was Rev. Olympia Brown Willis, who graduated from Antioch College, Ohio, in 1860, under the presidency of Hon. Horace Mann, and from the Theological School at Canton, N. Y., three years later, when she was regularly ordained by the Universalist Church. She was formally installed as pastor of the Universalist Church in Weymouth, Mass., a suburb of Boston, July 8, 1864, thirty years in advance of Rev. Amelia Frost. She remained in her first pastorate ten years and then removed to Bridgeport, Conn., in 1869. Her husband was a successful man of business, but was a member of her church and her most interested, active, and devoted parishioner. Her two children, a son and daughter, have recently graduated from Chicago University. As wife, mother, housekeeper, minister, and pastor Mrs. Willis has been very successful."

#### RELIGIOUS NOTES.

*The Standard*, of Chicago, discusses the partition of Turkey and the beneficial results to religious research that would follow: "It would mean much to Science if Turkey should cease to be, unspeakably much to archeological and Biblical science. The government of Turkey controls the majority of Biblical sites and districts where material lies hidden of value to the student of the Bible and of ancient history. Exploration and excavation are now made as difficult and as costly as possible to the scholar. The Turk will do nothing himself, nor let any one else do anything for which he is not himself well paid.

THE Jewish Congregation, Shearith Israel, has adopted plans for a new synagogue to be located near Central Park, New York, which will be the finest edifice of its kind, it is said, in existence. The design of this temple is in the classic style of architecture, the Corinthian order. The ark will be a beautiful work of rare marble, and it is said that the decorations will be finer than any other Jewish temple in the world. The *New York Sun* suggests that wealthy Jews throughout the world be asked to subscribe to a fund of \$100,000,000 to build a temple in this city as magnificent as that of Solomon.

IT is proposed to restore the Castle of Avignon, the former home of the Pope, to its former splendor, and present it to the Vatican. This castle on the River Rhone is the most imposing relic of the Middle Ages, and the French people think that were the chapel, conclave hall, and apartments offered to Leo XIII. the future of the Popes would be assured.

ARRANGEMENTS for the International Conference of the Pan-Presbyterian Council in Glasgow next summer are being rapidly pushed forward. The council was formed in 1874, since when five conferences have been held—in Edinburgh, Philadelphia, Belfast, London, and Toronto.

THE Bible Institute Colportage Association, organized last summer by Mr. Moody for the free distribution of religious reading among prisoners in jails, has during its short existence distributed 12,619 volumes in twenty-three States.

## FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

## THE STRUGGLE IN CUBA.

THE latest reports from Cuba are a little more favorable to the Spaniards, but this does not give grounds for the hope that the rebellion will speedily subside. That hope has been relinquished by the authorities. During the cool weather the insurgents will lie low, as they did in former insurrections. As soon as the *vomito* again fills the Spanish hospitals, a greater number of insurgents will take the field. The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, in commenting upon the gravity of the situation, says:

"The passage in President Cleveland's message in which he refers to the Cuban insurrection shows that the Washington Government intends to retain a correct position in the matter. Yet it contains a warning for Spain. We have pointed out some time ago that there is much sympathy with Cuba in the United States. The Presidential Message shows that the objections which at present exist in the United States against interference on their part are not of such great weight that they could not possibly be removed. The *Imparcial* declares that Senator Hill will advocate annexation or purchase of the island, and the Cuban question will therefore be mentioned in Congress during the last part of January, and perhaps even before that time. It is therefore easy to understand that the Madrid authorities wish Martinez Campos to come to blows with the rebels in a decisive battle. General Campos has men enough to do this, but the insurgents continually manage to evade him, and they tire out his troops by guerilla warfare."

There is, however, good reason to suppose that the importance of the rebellion is of a more national than local character. Spain is in danger of losing the island, but the people of Havana go about their business as usual. The *Frankfurter Zeitung*, quoting from a private correspondence, says:

"Many people may suppose that all Havana is in a turmoil, but the truth is everything is as quiet as before. The war is, indeed, going on, and each party does its best; that is, each party gives the other a wide berth and takes care not to come to blows. True, we hear that two battles have been fought; that is to say, they are called 'battles,' but we know nothing of it all, except that there is, every now and then, a service in the churches in celebration of some victory. We would not know that there is a war if it were not for the New York papers, which tell us a great deal about it. In this city trains arrive and leave on schedule time just as before, the coffee-houses are filled by their usual customers, and the theaters are as well frequented as ever. Within a radius of 150 miles from our city there are no troops, and no communications have been interrupted."

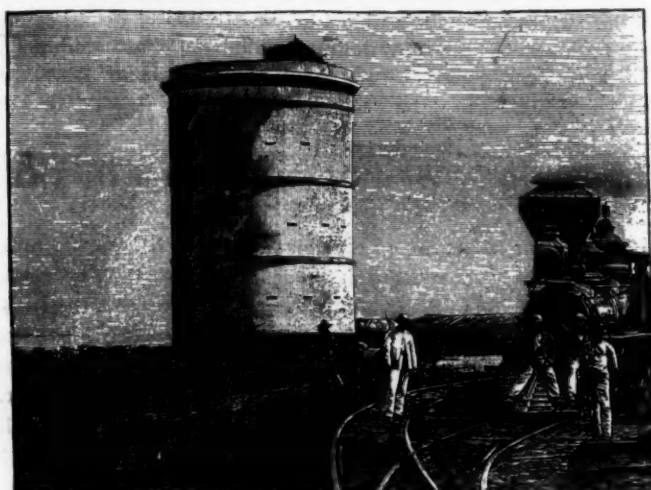
A bright side in the present struggle as compared with former rebellions is the evident desire of both parties to act in a more humane manner than during the sixties and seventies. The *National Zeitung*, Berlin, says:

"Gen. Martinez Campos has, indeed, proclaimed martial law, but it is handled very gently. Executions, during the former rebellion the order of the day, are now rare, and the culprits taken with arms in hand or serving as spies to the rebels are sent as prisoners to the North African colonies. This applies only to civilians who assist the rebels in an underhand manner. Such of the insurgents as may be identified as soldiers of the rebel forces are treated no worse than the prisoners of war in a struggle between two powers according each other belligerent rights. This mild treatment of the insurgents does not meet with approval in Madrid; many Spaniards think that Martinez Campos is thus granting the rebels rights which they have not yet obtained from any of the powers. But such fanaticism is neither wise nor humane. If anything is likely to bring the rebellion to an early close, it is this courtly behavior on the part of Marshal Martinez Campos, and if he succeeds in his plan to introduce reforms, the rebellion must collapse."

As the present state of the Spanish finances makes it necessary to draw a large part of the money necessary for carrying on the war from Cuba itself, the Spanish Government is anxious to re-

move all difficulties in the way of the usual exportation of sugar. The rebels, on the other hand, do their best to hamper the export of sugar. Marshal Campos, to protect the sugar-trains, has caused small forts to be erected all along the principal railroad lines. These forts are round towers, strong enough to resist attacks of infantry and cavalry. They are built similarly to the Moorish watch-towers which adorn the Spanish coast, and from whose tops the coast-guard gave the alarm when Algerine pirates approached the Spanish coast. The insurgents favor the export of tobacco, for the majority of their exiles resident in the United States are cigar-makers. If the United States recognizes the rebels as belligerents, the export of Havana tobacco will probably be prohibited. It is said that the Florida Cubans contribute \$12,000 to \$15,000 per month to the war-fund of the insurgents.

The Union Ibero-Americana, a powerful organization with headquarters in Madrid, quietly but effectively influences the white population of South America against the Cuban insurgents, who are mostly colored or half-breeds. The *Patria*, Mexico, re-



A CUBAN RAILWAY FORT.

marks that other countries have but one ambassador in each South American republic, but Spain has as many as there are Spanish residents. And, like Canada and other British Colonies proclaiming their loyalty to the mother country, there are not wanting offers from Spanish colonies to assist in the present war. From the Canaries and from Africa volunteers will be sent. Referring to the possible annexation of Cuba by Mexico, the *Partido Liberal*, Mexico, says:

"There are a few difficulties in the way. First, Spain may want to keep the island, and it looks very much as if she did. Second, we ought to find out whether the Cubans want to join us. Third, we ought to consider the possibility that the Cubans may never become fully assimilated, and may want to get rid of us. Fourth, that we have no navy beyond a few canoes to defend the island. If the negroes rise against us, as they have risen against the Spaniards, how are we to transport our troops there?"

—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE laws regarding slander and libel in Germany are very strict. Some years ago an English countess was imprisoned for insulting a railroad porter, just as a rich American was recently punished for insulting an official. In the case of private individuals the aggrieved party must institute proceedings in person. When the head of a state is insulted, the public prosecutor takes up the case. The dignity of the republican governments of Germany is upheld as strictly as that of the Emperor. Thus the Socialist editor of the Berlin *Banarbeiter Zeitung* was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment for insults to the Senate of the state of Hamburg. Foreign governments rank as private individuals, and must prosecute through their ambassadors. An insult against the United States Congress would be punished as heavily as an attack upon the Emperor.

ALTHO the French press is very wroth if anti-German agitation is suppressed in Alsace-Lorraine, France is compelled to follow precisely the same course in the Department of Nizza, where a large part of the people still wish to return under Italian rule, tho their country has now been French over forty years. Thus the *Pensiero*, Nizza, an Irredentist paper, has been sequestered for its anti-French articles.



## MILITARY SERVICE: IS IT DEGRADING OR ELEVATING?

MR. HUGH PRICE HUGHES recently declared in *The Methodist Times*, London, that there is a scheme under foot in the British Cabinet to introduce conscription. Lord Wolseley is for it, the Duke of Devonshire is for it, and Mr. Chamberlain hopes to gild the pill by making it useful in advancing the old-age pensions. But even to advance such a laudable cause, military service is too heavy a price to pay.

Mr. Hughes pictures the result of universal military service in the most somber colors. The nations whose young men are forced to undergo a course of military training appear to him brutish, savage, degraded. He says:

"Those who have visited France, Italy, or Germany, will not need to be told how the abhorred blood-tax drains the national resources, clouds the national life, and degrades the national character. The essential social object of Christianity, as foretold by Isaiah and expounded by our Lord and His Apostles, was to substitute a civil for a military basis of human society. The conscription takes us back at one step to savagery. Man, every man, becomes once more above all else a mere fighting animal. Civilization, art, science, literature, and, of course, Christianity sink into the background. Military men and military ideas prevail everywhere and dominate everything. Those of us who, like Tennyson, desire that 'the ape and tiger' should die out of our blood, and believe that we are 'called to higher things,' will, of course, resist the conscription until death. But the forces in favor of it will be irresistible unless it is resisted at once, and in its very earliest stages."

Mr. Hughes does not believe that the old-age pensions (which, in themselves, he does not oppose), would derive lasting financial support in this way. Englishmen would soon object to a law which favors the rich, just as other nations have objected. He points out that, on the Continent, every man, irrespective of social rank, must serve, saying:

"From prince to peasant every man who is not mentally or physically defective is compelled to serve in the ranks. That will be the inevitable goal for us also if England consents to sink to the savage continental level. We need not now enlarge upon the temptations and demoralization of barrack life at the most impressionable period of young manhood. . . . If the conscription comes on any pretext, it will soon fling pension schemes and everything else on one side, and will remain a new form of servitude more intolerable than anything Englishmen have ever experienced since the abolition of serfdom; and the one European race which has hitherto defied the clamor and deadly fascination of militarism will sink into the servile and inhuman condition from which our ancestors so slowly and so painfully emancipated themselves and us."

Mr. Hughes's information is not taken seriously anywhere. Throughout Europe it is thought that England will not train her people in the use of arms until she is absolutely forced to do so. In the most exposed outposts of the British Empire there is some hope that England will provide more seriously than heretofore for the protection of her colonies. But that conscription will be adopted is not believed anywhere. The editor of *The Japan Gazette*, Yokohama, taking a view radically opposite to that expressed by Mr. Hughes, says:

"England, alas, can not adopt conscription. She has arrived at the stage reached by the Moors before their expulsion from Spain. War is regarded as a dreadful thing and to be avoided at all cost. Manufacturing, trading, literary pursuits, and money-making are considered the only occupations worthy of civilized man. There is a shrinking from pain, and a nausea at the very thought of bloodshed, which marks the epoch when a nation, pampered by prosperity and emasculated by luxurious living, enters upon the period of decline. This effeminacy of thought and nerve is gloried in and labeled 'civilization.' 'Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad,' said the old Greek proverb, and nature, not less considerate than the mythical deities of the Grecian pagans, makes pleasant the downward path of the

people doomed to degeneracy. They march to extinction and call it progress, viewing with ineffable scorn the 'barbarians' who still follow nature's law of the survival of the fittest. Thus sneered the Grecians, the Romans, the Moors, and to-day the Chinese race are but repeating history. If the opinions of the blatant but very earnest Hugh Price Hughes prevail, there can be but one result. England, despising militarism, will fall by what she rose. If she does not keep pace with her competitors, she will unquestionably be outdistanced in the day of trial. Voluntary enlistment is a failure. It does not keep the army up to the strength required, and it is so expensive that other nations can maintain millions where we can barely support two hundred thousand. Conscription has the advantage of giving to all men a military training; its inestimable effects on the physique of the Germans are very marked; but Lord Salisbury, Mr. Chamberlain, and Lord Wolseley combined can not convince the majority of Englishmen that they owe any duty to the state. Mr. Hughes can rest content."

## THE ARMY QUESTION IN SWITZERLAND.

SWITZERLAND, the oldest existing federation of republics after the manner of the United States, is agitated over a question of national defense. The Central Government has endeavored to obtain larger power over the state militia, in order to form it into a compact national army. The people have refused these advances. The army administration predicts the ruin of Swiss independence. They declare that it is impossible for Switzerland to maintain herself in the midst of military nations without an efficient army, and they believe that the army can not become really efficient unless its discipline is increased, even if the citizen soldiers must give up their independent air while serving with the colors, and acknowledge the superiority of the officers in many respects. But the Swiss people would rather take the chances of defeat than accept such maxims, for the Swiss cottager has great contempt for men who do not work with their hands, and they despise book-learning. The *Bund*, Berne, expresses itself upon this question as follows:

"The Swiss people complain of many abuses in their army, and there is a fear abroad that these abuses may increase rather than diminish if the army organization is centralized. Many complaints are heard with regard to the treatment of the troops while under arms. The food is described as insufficient, and the exertions demanded of the men are said to be excessive. These complaints, however, may generally be dismissed as groundless. There is better proof that the complaints against the officers are just. The officers are beginning to act as dandies, and many officers and instructors are accused of unnecessary impoliteness toward the men. There is an increasing dislike between officers and men. The fault lies almost exclusively with the officers, who wish to separate themselves as much as possible from their inferiors. There are, of course, honorable exceptions, but the majority of the officers regard the soldiers more as material than as fellow citizens. The soldiers feel that they are looked upon as servants and that their superiors regard them as stupid. A soldier may wish to ask his officers questions regarding the service, but the officers assume such airs of superiority that their men dare not approach them. The men are made unhappy and dissatisfied by such a state of affairs. Yet both parties should remember that their work can not progress favorably unless they trust each other. A certain amount of good fellowship can not reduce the authority of the officers; it is much more likely to increase it.

"The officers begin to regard themselves as a caste. This will not do for an army composed of the people, and it will not do in a democratic community. The people will have no militarism. As there was no better way to prove the aversion of the Swiss against militarism, they made use of the military bill to express their discontent. As soon as the nation is satisfied that its dissatisfaction is regarded as just, it will accept any project for the better defense of the country. It is the duty of the Government to cause such complaints to be investigated, and to remove the causes of dissatisfaction. As soon as this is done, the people may be asked once more to increase the defensive strength of the country."—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

### GERMANY'S ANSWER TO PRESIDENT CLEVELAND.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S annual message to Congress has created nowhere greater sensation than in Germany. His remarks on the prohibition of Texas cattle and the difficulties put in the way of American insurance companies are regarded as threats of retaliation. Regarding the question in this light, the German Bundesrath (Senate) has decided to put a heavy additional tax on imported meat, canned, salted, or fresh. So says the *Berlin Post*. The Liberal press in Germany, defending almost exclusively commercial interests, fears a destructive tariff war. But the great majority of the German voters are still bound up with agricultural interests. The farmers complain that they can not make a living if they have to compete with American produce, and the Agrarians in the Reichstag think the loss of American trade a slight calamity compared with the decline of agricultural interests.

The *Deutsche Tages Zeitung*, Berlin, the organ of the German Farmers' Alliance, says:

"During an economical war with America our industries would have little to lose. The agricultural interests of the country may gain a little. But the whole matter appears to us in the light of political blackmailing. We do not see how our industrial products could be driven from the American markets even by a further increase in the duties. The American duties are too high as it is."

Some of the Agrarian leaders used arguments which have often appeared in English papers where American products are concerned. Thus Earl Mirbach expressed himself to the effect that American provisions are inferior to those produced in Germany—an assertion which can not be regarded as just. The earl said:

"The Americans make a great mistake if they fancy that they can threaten us with a tariff war. It is a well-known fact that American provisions are inferior to German produce, and we have done nothing that was not necessary for our protection from a sanitary point of view. With regard to the American insurance companies, I understand that these companies refused to submit to our laws. We did not ask more of them than of our own companies. Surely we can not be expected to favor foreign companies to the detriment of our own."

There is all likelihood of a sharp battle over the question when the Reichstag again meets. The trade with America is very large. Between 10 and 12 per cent. of all German exports go to the United States.

In answer to an interpellation in the Reichstag, Freiherr (Lord) Marschall v. Bieberstein, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, expressed himself as follows:

"The United States treats German sugar still in the same way as in 1894, altho we have a most-favored-nation treaty with that country. It is therefore highly astonishing that President Cleveland blames us for treating American produce differently from that of other nations, and complains that we oppress American insurance companies. His assertions are without justification. We prohibited American cattle because they were found to be suffering from Texas fever, and it is our duty to protect our own stock, even to the detriment of the commercial interests of other countries. Neither do we treat the American insurance companies unjustly. They are subject to the same rules as our own. Whether the Prussian Government attains the end for which these rules are enforced, is a matter which concerns our Government alone, and we can not accord foreign states the right of criticism. We have always fulfilled our treaty obligations toward the United States, and will continue to do so. But threats and repressive measures will not intimidate us, much less cause us to revoke measures which were adopted after due consideration. We are always willing to discuss questions of commerce with great and friendly powers in an amicable manner, but we certainly expect them to do the same."

The *Freisinnige Zeitung*, Berlin, answers some of the official

arguments in an article published by the *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne. We condense its remarks as follows:

The *Kölnische Zeitung*, in an official article, declares that Germany did not prohibit the importation of Texas cattle until the Government was convinced of the danger of introducing the infectious fever. But the English, who are just as much bound to protect their cattle, allow Texas cattle to pass without hindrance. The *Kölnische Zeitung* thinks there can be no objection on the part of the American Government to the rigid examination of American pork by the local German boards. As far as we know the American Government has never raised any objections. The *Kölnische Zeitung* further remarks that the quarantine regulations against live stock are enforced in the case of English, Danish, Swedish, Russian, etc., cattle just as much as with American cattle and pigs. But the Scandinavian countries, the only ones from which cattle are imported to any extent besides America, are given privileges, hence the United States alone suffers from the quarantine regulations. That American dried apples were found to be in a condition unfit for use as food has been proved, but the Agrarians acknowledge that all sanitary measures have the object of excluding foreign produce in order to raise the price of home produce.

The *Tageblatt*, Berlin, points out that the Government has been warned against the introduction of over-strict rules where American produce is concerned. But the *Kreuz-Zeitung*, Berlin, thinks the Agrarians have no less an ally than the Emperor himself, who is said to have remarked to Chancellor Prince Hohenlohe: "Something must be done for our distressed farmers before it is too late, and I hope that the Reichstag will this time be convinced of the need of measures for their relief."—Translated and Condensed for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

### AMERICAN COLONY IN BERLIN.

IT appears that the Americans who have taken up their abode in the German capital know well how to uphold the credit of their country. Complaints about members of the sporting fraternity are exceptional. According to German authorities the majority of our countrymen living there are quiet, unassuming, painstaking folk, from whom the Germans can learn in many ways. The following description of the American colony appears in the *National Zeitung*, Berlin:

"If we except the Austro-Hungarians, who can hardly be considered as foreigners, the American colony is now the strongest of all foreign contingents in our capital. It has grown very much during the last few years, and numbers among its members not only the students who frequent the colleges and musical institutes, but also a large number of families who have settled here for a number of years. The Americans even do something for the handsome appearance of our city. In the Leipziger Strasse alone they have raised four handsome buildings. The number of boarding-houses in which none but Americans reside is very large, and in some of these elegant establishments thirty to forty visitors from the United States are to be found.

"But those who wish to appreciate the real importance of their presence must visit philharmonic concerts or the Sing Academy. On some evenings it would appear as if the Americans formed half the audience. Everywhere, in the boxes and in the 'standing room,' English is spoken. All walks of life are represented in the American colony. Many are blessed with a superabundance of worldly possessions; many others must earn their living and the cost of the studies for which they came here by giving lessons in English. The directors and professors of the university and the colleges give them the greatest possible praise. Like the Japanese, they may well be regarded as patterns of industry and application for our own youths."

The number of Americans living in Berlin with some degree of permanence is computed at 3,000. It is, however, expected that their number will increase considerably during the exhibition which is to be opened next year.—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.



### RADICAL COMMENTS ON AN IMPERIAL ARTIST.

EMPEROR WILLIAM'S allegorical picture has been the subject of much unfavorable comment on the part of the Radical press in Germany. Maximilian Harden, the editor of the *Zukunft*, Berlin, whose hand, like Henry Rochefort's, is turned against everybody in power, ridicules the idea that Buddha could serve as the personification of revolution. Professor Knackfuss has now boldly acknowledged that the picture is intended as a warning against the spirit of destruction, and has written an explanation to this effect to the *Paris Matin*. The *Zukunft*, in a long article, intimated that the Imperial author of the picture revealed lamentable ignorance in its composition. It was at first thought that Mr. Harden would be prosecuted for *lese majeste*. But such prosecutions are only begun at the initiative of the local state prosecutors, and the Berlin *Staats Anwaltschrift* is reported to have said that Harden "would be only too pleased to gain additional notoriety at so cheap a cost."

The *Rheinisch-Westphälische Zeitung*, Elberfeld, reflects upon the effect of the picture as follows:

"The Russians are dissatisfied because Russia is depicted as hiding behind the stronger Germany, and they would like to see the positions reversed, especially as it is Germany where the social question is most threatening. Our French neighbors also criticize the picture very sharply because the allegorical figure of France is seemingly hesitating in the struggle against *Umsturz*."

France is as safe from revolution as any country in Europe, considering the fact that the first French revolution has created hundreds of thousands of small farms capable of supporting their owners, and in France the *bourgeoisie* stands more united against Socialism than in Germany. The European votaries of Buddha protest against the idea that he is a prince of darkness."

The Socialist *Vorwärts* says:

"According to all accounts, it is really not a danger from Asiatic hordes that is to be feared, especially as they are the intimate friends of Russia, whose figure appears among the rest of the nations. The battle is to be fought against the so-called internal enemy, the wicked Socialists. It is they against whom everybody is warned. But why does not the artist come out with it boldly? Why make use of an allegory which will hardly be understood by the masses to whom, as purchasers of the picture, the artist naturally appeals? Professor Knackfuss can find a good deal of necessary information about Buddha in any encyclopedia. Besides, would not Christianity profit something by borrowing some of Buddha's maxims?"—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

### BERLIN'S COMING EXHIBITION.

THE cautious citizens of Germany's capital, after due consideration, came to the conclusion that they would have to deny themselves the treat of an international exhibition, for, as the Scotch would express it, "'Twad cost their siller." They have decided to have a local exhibition instead, on which they intend to expend the trifle of a million dollars only. Evidently this local affair will assume no mean dimensions, to judge by the descriptions given in various foreign publications. We take the following from *The Times*, Valparaiso:

"The exhibition is to be opened on the first of May, 1896, and will last six months. It will be under the protectorate of Prince Frederick Leopold of Prussia, and Minister of Commerce Baron Berlepoch is Honorary President. The Imperial Government and the municipal authorities assist the undertaking financially, and increase its importance by becoming exhibitors themselves. It is evident that the undertaking will extend far beyond the compass of a mere local Berlin exposition, and will attract the attention of all cultured nations. The magnificent proportions maintained in all departments strip the enterprise of its local character, and make it a national one. The total number of exhibitors will exceed 5,000, and the guaranty fund foots up over

4,000,000 marks (\$1,000,000). In order to furnish a general idea of the exposition we give the division in groups:

"1. Textile industries. 2. Clothing. 3. Building and engineering. 4. Wooden manufactures. 5. Porcelain and earthenware. 6. Notions. 7. Metals. 8. Printing and decorative arts. 9. Chemical industries. 10. Articles of food. 11. Scientific instruments. 12. Musical instruments. 13. Machinery, ship-building, and transportation. 14. Electricity. 15. Leather and rubber industries. 16. Paper industries. 17. Photography. 18. Sanitary institutions. 19. Educational matters. 20. Fisheries, shipping, and sports appertaining to these. 21. Driving, riding, shooting, and other sports. 22. Horticulture. 23. Colonial.

"The main building covers 60,000 square meters, 'Old Berlin' 40,000 square meters. The whole ground occupied is 1,200,000 meters. A novelty is the great basin, 50,000 square meters in area, in which models of war-ships will be shown, large enough for all sorts of naval maneuvers."

A peculiarity of this exposition is that it will be closed at night, with rare exceptions. This is done for humanitarian reasons only, to give the employees sufficient time to rest.

### ACCIDENTS AND INSURANCE.

THERE is a growing agitation in Germany for the extension of the accident and old-age pension laws to the lower middle classes. As yet the workmen alone benefit by the provisions of these laws. The extent to which misery has been averted by the Compulsory Accident Insurance is not fully realized by the public. A Belgian gentleman, M. Ch. Morisseaux, the Director of the Belgian Labor Bureau, has just published a book on the subject, in which he describes the enormous problem which the German Government has tried to solve. He says:

"Last year there were 264,130 accidents. That means that in a population of 50,000,000 a quarter of million annually are accidentally hurt in the execution of their duty. Among them are nearly 9,000 killed and totally disabled. What a cruel thought this, that industrial and agricultural work can not be carried on without such risks! The world has had a suspicion of these facts, but it was left to German statistics to reveal them in all their rigor. Luckily the revelation is a service to humanity. But the German Legislature has done more than reveal the extent of this misery; it has had the astounding courage to provide an incomparable remedy. It is all very well to find fault with the Compulsory Insurance. No doubt there are faults. But Germany can point to the following facts: From October 1, 1885, to December 31, 1893, 39,000 workmen lost their lives in Germany in consequence of accidents. Thanks to the Insurance Laws neither their widows, nor their children, nor their aged parents have suffered from want; 183,562 employees have been totally crippled, but they are not forced to beg; 1,231,076 have been hurt less seriously, but they have been enabled to await their convalescence without fear that those dependent upon them would suffer during the enforced idleness of the bread-winner."

M. Morisseaux thinks that other nations can now follow Germany's initiative, and, profiting by her experience, avoid those errors which in some measure neutralized the effects of her first efforts. He considers that the care of the infirm and of widows and orphans is hardly the most important benefit derived from the system. It has made employers more careful, and will positively lengthen the average of life. He continues:

"There are important results from a hygienic point of view. How many workmen formerly became victims of incurable diseases, either because the causes of their suffering were not removed, or because they did not take sufficient time to get cured? Often a slight illness or an insignificant wound becomes incurable through want of attention. Compulsory insurance, therefore, not only turns aside many dangers, but positively preserves human strength, and thus lengthens life."—Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE Japanese have begun to evacuate Liao Tung. They take all the war material they can find with them and destroy all fortifications. Port Arthur, China's strongest fortress and naval port, is also being demolished.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS OF LONG AGO.

**A**MONG the vestiges of ancient customs which still linger in the most socially advanced states of Europe, there is perhaps none more curious than the pagan and semi-pagan observances connected with Christmas throughout Central France. In the French Midlands, says Mabel Peacock in *The Gentlemen's Magazine*, the *cosse de Nau*, or Christmas log, is still a ponderous piece of timber "worthy of typifying the heavenly light whose rays sustain all organic nature, and whose worship was the inspiring motive of the great winter festival before the introduction of Christianity obscured, and finally effaced the signification of the heathen cult." We quote the following:

"This log frequently consists of the entire trunk of a tree, and requires the united strength of many men to place it in the wide-mouthed chimney, where it is to feed the flame of the household hearth till the end of the three days, during which the sacred feast is most actively kept up. According to venerable tradition it should be taken from an oak felled at midnight, and it ought to be placed where it is to be consumed just as the bell rings for the elevation of the Host during the midnight mass on Christmas Eve, when it is to be kindled by the head of the family, after receiving a sprinkling of holy water. It is on the two extremities of the Christman log that cakes, fruit, and other gifts are arranged for the children of the house, who have been sent off to bed with the promise that *bonhomme Nau*—our Christmas Father—or *le petit Naulet*, the Christmas child, who figures in German legend as the *Christ-Kind*, will bring them a present while they sleep. Sometimes, however, the smaller branches of the juniper are used as an *arbre de Nau*, or Christmas tree, being placed near the hearth and hung with gifts. This *arbre de Nau* is evidently not unlike the native English Christmas-bough, which consists of a bunch of evergreens bound on a frame of hoops and suspended from the ceiling of the kitchen, or family sitting-room, after being adorned with nuts, apples, the carefully blown shells of the eggs used in the Christmas pudding, and various presents and ornaments. The remains of the Christmas log in the province of Berry, as was formerly the case in many English counties, are preserved from one year to another. Being placed under the bed of the master of the house, a fragment of the wood is always ready to hand should a thunderstorm gather, when a piece of it thrown into the fire ought to guard the family and its possessions against damage by lightning.

"Similarly, in some parts of Germany the Yule log is placed on the hearth on Christmas Eve, and if possible kept burning for two or three days. Then a piece of it is laid aside for the purpose of lighting the next year's log, and of guarding the household from harm. Pieces of fir-wood charred, but not quite burnt out in the Christmas fire, are also placed under the family bed in some German villages to avert the dreaded lightning-stroke, which appears in this relation to be the type of fire in its evil aspect, in contradistinction from the solar orb, the representative of beneficent light and warmth. The custom of burning a Yule log for three days and nights in each homestead is almost certainly a survival from the adoration once offered to the sun at the winter solstice. Three centuries after the Christian era sun worship was still maintained in Brittany; and in Normandy, not more than a hundred years ago, the household fire was extinguished on December 24, and the Christmas log was ignited by the aid of a flame procured from the lamp burning in the neighboring church. This fact affords a curious instance of the probable transference of respect and reverence from the sacred fire of a purely heathen creed to the ecclesiastical lights of Catholicism. When the pagan rites for procuring unsullied fire were forbidden, or fell into desuetude, the ideas to which they owed their origin and development, instead of perishing, continued to exist more or less perfectly, by attaching themselves to usages and ceremonies having no direct association with them.

"In the inclement regions of the far North, where the severities of the winter, combined with the isolation of their inhabitants, tended to keep alive the old veneration of the sun, it was not till the tenth century that Christmas took the place of the heathen feast; and even now traces of the divine honor once paid to the

sovereign light of the firmament are to be discovered in every country of Europe. In Germany, for instance, the peasants of Chemnitz believed not many years ago, and probably believe to the present day, that if women dance in the sunlight at Candlemas, their flax will thrive that year; while in England, Lincolnshire superstition teaches that when the sun shines through the branches of the apple-trees on Christmas Day there will be a heavy crop of fruit in the ensuing season; and that if a miller means to thrive, he must set his mill-stones 'to turn with the sun,' for to move sunways is a lucky motion, and is recognized as such not only in the British Islands, but throughout Europe and Asia if not beyond their limits."

## WAVES OF POPULAR INSANITY.

**A**NATION can not be indicted, said Burke, but it seems to be the opinion of scientific men that whole nations may become insane and collectively perpetrate acts of madness while the individuals composing them remain perfectly normal. History and contemporary political life are said to afford abundant instances of such popular madness. To some of these Rabbi Adolph Moses refers in an article in *The American Journal of Politics* (December). While, he says, individual madness is due to a diseased condition of the brain, a multitude may fall under the sway of a perfectly insane delusion without such a cause, because, after all, insanity has its seat in the soul. He continues as follows:

"Popular insanity is in its nature and manifestations exactly like individual madness, inasmuch as it consists in the inability of large masses of men to think and act with regard to certain matters in harmony with the facts of nature, the actual conditions of society, and the experience of the world. A vicious and indissoluble association of ideas is formed by some strong popular passion, by a powerful selfish desire, or by a sense of fear, which blinds the eye of the mind to all the facts which conflict with its assumptions.

"The belief in witchcraft held for so many centuries by myriads of uncivilized and civilized human beings affords, in its fatal persistence and dreadful effects, a classical example of what popular insanity is, how it acts, and how it is caused. People sane in every other respect were firmly convinced that certain weak and decrepit old women and men, who were unable to provide for themselves the bare necessities of life, possessed the superhuman power to conjure up violent storms, to command the sea to rise and pour destructive floods upon the land, to order the clouds to empty their precious contents upon one field and leave the neighboring field perfectly dry."

In the modern silver movement and in the position on slavery which the South held before the war, Rabbi Moses sees nothing but instances of popular insanity. He says:

"The silver madness shows all the characteristics of partial insanity! It has smitten vast numbers of people with judicial blindness which prevents them from seeing the stern realities of commercial life and the unalterable conditions of international intercourse, and has made them deaf to the teachings and solemn warnings of political economy. The saddest feature of this witches' Sabbath of silver madness consists in this, that the majority of those who rave for silver have in former years been afflicted with another kind of popular insanity, for which they and the whole country paid a fearful price in blood and wealth.

"The Southern people had for years been under the sway of a fixed idea in regard to slavery. The rest of the civilized world had learned to abhor slavery as the greatest social and moral curse, and had made the greatest sacrifices to abolish it root and branch. The unanimous verdict of the most advanced portion of mankind had declared that no modern nation can thrive economically, intellectually, and morally that keeps up this accursed institution. The history of the civilized world had taught that the greatest and mightiest nations, the most highly endowed imperial races, had perished through the pernicious operations of slavery. The preamble to the Constitution of the Union had declared that all men are born free and equal, and yet in defiance of these palpable facts, in spite of all the teachings of wisdom and morality, heedless of the pleadings and warnings of history, in utter con-



tempt of the fundamental principles of their free institutions, an overwhelming majority of the Southern people regarded slavery an excellent and beneficial thing in itself, called it a divine institution, went on breeding slaves and investing almost all their savings in human chattels. Their desperate clinging to slavery after the genius of humanity, after the experience of mankind, had uttered its doom, was simply a tragic case of popular insanity."

Another case of popular insanity instanced is anti-Semitism, concerning which Rabbi Moses writes:

"Anti-Semitism is a popular monomania, brought on by unhealthy social conditions, by imperfect moral training, by the fanaticism of nationality and race, by the inborn brutal instincts of hatred and envy, by traditional prejudices, and, above all, by the irreligious teachings of many teachers of religion. People suffering from the monomania of anti-Semitism can but with difficulty be cured, because their reason in this one respect is dethroned and can not be brought in touch with the countless opposing realities which exist outside of their deranged minds. Like true maniacs they deny the actual and firmly believe in the impossible. Like all madmen they are haunted by imaginary terrors which distort their vision and prevent them from seeing the Jews such as they are in reality—human beings who are, in their faults and virtues, in their strength and weakness, in their hopes and aspirations, like their gentile countrymen."

### WHAT IS YOUR "PET MEANNESS"?

IT is said that nearly everybody has a rooted aversion to giving away some one thing. No matter how generous the man or woman may be, in this one thing he or she is a miser. Baron James Rothschild, it is related, did not in the least mind giving thousands of dollars to a hospital—tens of thousands, in dozens of directions—but when it came to postage-stamps he could not bear to pay on his private letters, but would smuggle them in at the expense of the firm.

Frances Courtenay Baylor contributes to the December *Lippincott's* a humorous article on this subject from which we take the following:

"One of the richest women in this country hoards matches as if they were so many wands studded with diamonds. She will give one or two under protest, to a relative in need of them, but she buys them by the gross, and lights and relights them until the last charred bit falls off, leaving her often with burnt fingers and a regretful wish that 'she could have used that one once more.' When her children come of age she gives each of them two hundred thousand dollars with the greatest possible cheerfulness, but if they were to ask her for a whole box of matches she would feel that she was being impoverished, and if they took six, that she was being robbed.

"Then there is the well-known case of the millionaire who supports a newsboys' home, but will never buy a paper unless he can beat down the boy who is selling it and get it at half-price—after which he not infrequently presents him with a quarter. If one could lay bare the secret motives and springs of action exposed in such cases, it would be curious to see how far habit, prejudice, and mania affect each case. One woman, with a davenport stuffed full of writing-materials, can't bear to lend an envelope; another draws the line at needles, tho she has more packets of them than she will ever open, and a bank-account that insures her thousands more if she should need them. One man will give his friend a horse that costs fifteen hundred dollars, and begrudge him a single ivory shirt-stud. Another will give a handsome dinner to twenty people, that will cost him hundreds, and feel it an affliction to pay a car-fare. Still another has been known to buy a yacht, provision it, sail around the world with it, entertain successive sets of people on it in the handsomest style, and pay all his bills for these expenses with the most praiseworthy regularity, except those for black pepper. Bands to play on board, bunting to decorate the yards, expensive suppers for any number of people wines by the dozen hampers, flowers enough to fill the hugest conservatory, additional servants, tons of coal, an extra launch, will all pass unnoticed, unchallenged; but when it comes to pepper he makes notes, consults cook-books, summons cooks, makes his steward's life a burden to him—so much so that he has been

known to have nine of these indispensable functionaries in his employment in the course of five seasons. Unlike the Chevalier Xavier de St-Foix, '*sans six sous, et sans souci*,' he makes himself miserable over the minnow, and swallows the whales without making a single face. He will have pepper, but it must be got below the market price all over the world, and must be used as he uses it; that is, as if it were gold-dust instead.

"Shoes were the pet meanness of a distinguished English nobleman whose ground-rents in London alone would have shod all its inhabitants for centuries to come. It is related of him that he once took his favorite pair in person to a cobbler, and that after carefully examining them the man said to him: 'I never saw the like since I've been at the business. You are either the greatest pauper in England, or the Marquis of —.' 'I am the marquis, not the pauper,' said his lordship, and, far from being offended, seemed greatly amused. To mount a new pair of shoe-strings, even, is pain and grief to him, and a new pair of shoes always brings on a violent fit of gout, so vehemently is he opposed to the sad necessity of donning them at all.

"There is a Frenchman whose eccentricity in respect of a pet meanness is very often commented upon in Paris; for, tho he has a model establishment and positively rolls in money, he can not bear to use towels freely—his own or his neighbors'. It is said that upon staying at one of the old castles of Brittany for a week he took his hostess aside privately and showed her over three dozen towels that he had been gloating over for days. 'All these, madame, I have saved,' he remarked, with great delight. 'Your servants put them in my room, it is true, but I and my wife have only used one between us. Servants are careless, wasteful creatures: I return the rest.'

"The most amusing instance I can recall of the effect of a suddenly acquired fortune upon a pet meanness is that told by an English author about an old woman in an almshouse who came into a million by a Chancery decision that had been pending a hundred years. She bought everything that money could buy—silks, velvets, laces, furs, estates, carriages, horses, *soi-disant* friends even. She threw away her bank-notes upon everything imaginable, in a kind of frenzy of possession. But when it came to tea, she suffered: she debated, she chattered, but never could make up her mind to buy and pay for, at any one time, more than a 'quarter of a pound of good black Bohea.' She would have felt beggared by a pound of any tea at any price; it had always been so precious to her that she had lost all sense of its intrinsic value. Perhaps it represented to some extent the bright unattainable, without which life has no zest."

### DEMOCRACY AND THE SERVANT QUESTION.

AMERICANS are wont to think that they alone are troubled with the ever-present servant question, and that dwellers in European countries are more fortunate. The following plaint by Henry Fouquier (from *Le Figaro*, Paris, November 25) may serve to undeceive us. M. Fouquier asserts that it is merely a phase of the march of democracy, which he appears to view from the standpoint of a conservative, if not of an aristocrat. Says M. Fouquier:

"The terrible social revolution, as serious as a political revolution, that has been accomplished among us by the triumph of individualism and the moneyed class, has perhaps shown its effects nowhere better and in a more striking manner, so far as externals are concerned, than in the servant question.

"Servants were once *gens de la maison* [people of the (one particular) house]; they have become *gens de maison* [house-people (in general)] and the shade of difference marked by a single word, is immense. To be a domestic was once a social condition in which remained something of the idea that the family included all who slept under the same roof—something of the protecting idea of clientage. The very word [domestic, from Latin *domus*, house], tho servants do not like it, has its etymological value.

"Some of these old-time servants still exist in the provinces. . . . There we still find servants faithful to ruined masters, devoted to sick masters. At Paris, to be a domestic is a trade, which has become completely industrialized. The majority of the *chefs* . . . desire to work only on contract. . . .

"The women cooks have also become ordinary working-women. . . . Those who are incapable of direct theft never refuse to make

you spend six francs to get the value of six sous. Their consciences are equal to that of the employee that Napoleon III. surprised once at Fontainebleau, burning tree-trunks in the middle of July in the great fireplaces of the deserted halls of the château. 'What are you doing that for?' asked the Emperor. 'To get the ashes, which are my perquisite, according to agreement.' 'Faith!' said Napoleon, 'why don't you take away the wood?' 'Sire, I am not a thief!' It is not cooks alone who can appreciate such a mental state. It is eminently administrative.

"In fine, granting that it is still possible to have honest, conscientious, even devoted servitors, there is scarcely any one who does not complain of the difficulty of obtaining good domestics. Chambermaids are the easiest to find. The pretty ones commonly go to the bad; the homely ones feel that they are unprotected and try to keep their places, dreading to have to return to the country, whence they usually come. But the tricks that valets and cooks play their masters form a subject of conversation as well at the clubs as at the five-o'clock teas of the *bourgeoisie*. Servants are no longer faithful; they cheat when they do not rob; they are felt to be hostile, inimical, spying, delighted to surprise a scandalous secret, never dreaming of anything but to work as little as possible, leaving you for a dollar more a month, insolent when you are a day behind with their wages. This is all true, alas! and the worst is that it is inevitable and is on the increase. For the quality of the democratic spirit is to break all bonds of discipline, to consider moral direction as an attempt upon liberty, and protection as an injury.

"The democratic independence of spirit is nine times out of ten merely another name for envy. The modern servant, especially the man, is at once foolishly proud of the part that he takes in the life of luxury and wealth of those that he serves, and basely jealous of this very luxury and wealth which humiliates him. And since he loses respect, gratitude, devotion, the master on his part, knowing that he is master no longer, not even an acknowledged patron, casts off the duties that he himself owes to his servants. He reprimands and discharges, warns seldom, never counsels. Masters and servants, living side by side, are separated by impassable chasms. Hate—the word is not too strong—comes to exist between them. The master suffers from being obliged to be haughty and from having to guard himself against the one who serves him. Socially these two classes of employers and employees are perhaps those that detest each other most. The moral separation of these existences condemned to such intimate association shows itself in the very management of our households.

"There are few houses now where the servant is not relegated to the top story, under the eaves. Even in fine mansions, these servants' quarters are small, never having a homelike look. And, nevertheless, the servant wishes no other. There he has his liberty. He abuses it. If Zola has exaggerated in his account of the servants' quarters in *Pot-Bouille*, he nevertheless saw truly. They are too often given over to debauchery, and there always, almost always, the servant vents his ill humor against his lot, cherishes his bile and his envy and descends thence as the Roman plebeian descended from the Aventine, subjugated but not conquered by his adversary."—*Translated for THE LITERARY DIGEST.*

#### HOW SHALL WE PUNCTUATE THE SALUTATION IN OUR LETTERS?

**S**HALL it be a comma, a semicolon, a colon, or a comma and a dash? The query has arisen as to what shall be the punctuation-mark after the salutation in a letter. Shall it be Dear Sir, Dear Sir; Dear Sir: or Dear Sir,—?

*The Educational News* (Newark, Del.), which advocates the comma, has this to say on the subject:

"The confusion arises from the different forms used, thoughtlessly perhaps, by both business men and the educators of the day. Most men write these forms as they learned them in childhood, and when asked to give a reason for their practise claim simply that 'it is custom.' Is it? If so why does custom vary so greatly? When a man writes a sentence or even a punctuation mark he ought to be able to give a reason if there is one. Are we prepared to do this in our usage of the marks referred to?

"We write a sentence, 'My dear boy, I am glad to see you.'

Another, 'Dear Mary, when will you pay us a visit?' In each of these sentences and thousands of others like them, we place a comma after the name of the person addressed because that is the accepted law of usage with regard to the nominative case, independent by address, and nobody that understands good usage thinks of violating the rule. How do the sentences given differ from such salutations as begin 'My dear Mother,' 'Dear Captain Smith,' 'Dear Sir,' 'My dear Madam,' and the like? In no way whatever. They are all subject to the same rule, that a comma follows a noun used in the nominative case independent by direct address. The fact that Dear Sir or Dear Madam is on one line while the body of the letter begins on the next has nothing to do with the matter.

"When the salutation and the beginning of the body of the letter are on the same line, a dash may follow the comma to indicate a break or pause between the salutation and the letter, as follows: 'Dear Sister,—I have concluded to come,' etc. This form, however, is rarely used except where an address precedes the salutation, as

'Messrs. Jones and Clark,  
1020 Chestnut St.,  
Philadelphia.'

'Dear Sirs,—The goods you shipped,' etc.

"Ask yourself why you use the semi-colon, your answer likely is, Because it is custom. Ask yourself why you use the colon, and your answer is the same, and quite as unsatisfactory. Ask yourself why you use the comma and your answer is wholly intelligible and satisfactory. It means something to the learner and it will always be a reminder of the well-established principle of usage in connection with the independent case or address wherever it occurs.

"The use of the semi-colon or the colon probably arises from the fact that most people when they read a letter aloud let the voice fall in pronouncing Dear Sir, Dear Madam, Dear Friend, etc., but it must be borne in mind that the use of punctuation is to determine grammatical construction and not to mark rhetorical or elocutionary pauses."

**The New Woman.**—"We would call the attention of the 'New Woman' to the profound and subtle aphorism of Dr. Samuel Johnson. 'Nature,' declares the great lexicographer, 'has given women so much that the law has very wisely given them little.' The compliment contained in these words must not be allowed to obscure its far-reaching application. Plato, when he prescribed in his Republic that the law should put women more fully on an equality with men, and should accord them as high an education, both mental and physical as men enjoyed, was consistent enough to dock them of the privilege given them by nature, *i.e.*, of retaining possession of, and educating their own children. The new woman of Plato is the woman without a home, and robbed of her children. This is the logical application of the doctrine of woman's emancipation."—*The Churchman.*

#### CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER.

##### Emperor William as King of England.

HALIFAX, N. S., December 12, 1895.

*Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:*—

In an article translated for *THE LITERARY DIGEST* of December 7th, under the above heading, the writer makes some statements unsupported by history, and certain incorrect assertions. The Act of Settlement, of 1700, shows that the British Parliament had and has the power to bestow the crown on whomsoever it wishes. William the Conqueror, in 1066, induced the 'Witan' to proclaim him king. The Parliament declared the throne vacant when Charles I. endeavored to have things all his own way. William, Prince of Orange, was offered the throne by the English Parliament, and accepted it while James II. was alive. True, in the past the crown has been kept mostly in one line, so that Victoria traces her lineage back to the conqueror—but nothing outside of public sentiment could prevent the crown being bestowed upon an able statesman, or some other family, if Parliament voted to do so. The Act of Settlement and other succession statutes do not use the word 'children' as claimed by the writer, the expression is "heirs of his (or her) body;" and there may be a distinction between heirs and children. In reviewing the English sovereigns we see the law of primogeniture not always prevailing. The case most analogous to the present was that of Henry VIII. and his children. For altho Edward was the youngest, and a mere child, he took precedence of his sisters, and they only reigned when there was no male heir.

There is no statute declaring the eldest child to be heir, and the unwritten law of England is that the eldest son shall have priority. Should all the sons of Queen Victoria die, or cease to "join in communion with the Church of England as by law established," Emperor William might have his claims allowed by the Parliament. Till then there are many ahead of him.

W. R. PARSONS.



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## BUSINESS SITUATION.

### The General State of Trade.— Bank Clearings.

The general business situation has been affected by the precipitation of possible complications with Great Britain. First to feel this are the stock-market and prices of cotton and of wheat, the influence of which ramify among business houses in many different lines. The serious nature of the President's statement of the case had the effect here and in London of causing free selling of securities even in sight of the fact that expectation of war is slight. The most unfavorable feature is, and is likely to be, continued negotiations and the uncertainty which must exist until the incident is concluded.

A violent depression in stock and security values has followed the President's Venezuela message and its reception in Europe. The London market has been no less disturbed than our own, and the foreign selling of our securities was on an enormous scale. On Friday the stock-market approached a panicky condition, with heavy declines and total demoralization for a time, followed, however, by a rally. Gold shipments for the week are \$6,580,000, of which \$3,500,000 go to London to-day. The Treasury gold reserve is below \$70,000,000. Foreign exchange is up to 4.89½ for demand sterling, and bankers show a great disinclination to draw in view of the possible curtailments of foreign credits here. Two Stock Exchange failures have accompanied the decline in prices. Money ranged as high as 80 per cent. on call yesterday, but dropped to 6 before the close. There were heavy losses among speculators on a margin.

Representatives of *Bradstreet's* at 23 cities interviewed many leading manufacturers and merchants Thursday as to the effect, present or prospective, on trade of the international situation precipitated by the President's message, the message itself, and as to the probability of actual hostilities. The interviews fairly represent the sentiment of many of the most important financial, industrial, and commercial houses of the country. In no instance, so far as the interviews extend, is war considered the probable outcome. So far as the effect on business is concerned, Eastern and

Western manufacturing centers and many of the larger Western and Northwestern distributing points report none is felt whatever. The influence in the cotton and wheat markets and at the Stock Exchange has been characterized. Perhaps as significant as any other feature of the interviews is that in all cities except four the consensus of opinion distinctly favors the sentiments expressed in the President's message. The exceptions, where opinion on this point was divided, are New York, Boston, Detroit, and Milwaukee.

In the grain market, at the cotton exchanges and throughout the cotton-producing regions, as well as at New York city, Philadelphia, Boston and other New England points, complaints are heard of the effects on business of the international question which has been raised. The "trolley" strike at Philadelphia has overshadowed other trade influences. Leading Southern cities report Christmas retail trade fairly active, but that business in wholesale lines is quiet or unchanged. Dulness is conspicuous in Texas, and cotton continues neglected at leading markets, Charleston alone reporting a moderate general improvement.

The bank clearings' total this week is \$1,185,000,000, or 5 per cent. more than it was last week, nearly 14 per cent. more than in the third week of December, 1894, and 20 per cent. more than in the corresponding week of 1893. This week's total is 21.6 per cent. smaller than in the corresponding of 1892, when the aggregate was \$1,512,000,000, the largest on record. As compared with the corresponding total in 1891, this week shows a decrease of only 4 per cent.—*Bradstreet's*, December 21.

## CHESS.

[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess-Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

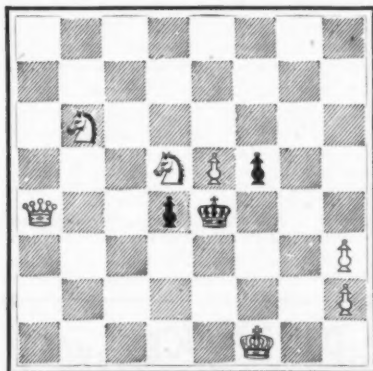
### Our Christmas Problem.

No. 109.

BY LAWS.

Black—Three Pieces.

K on K 5; Ps on Q 5 and K B 4.



White—Seven Pieces.

K on K B sq; Q on Q R 4; Kts on Q 5 and Q Kt 6; Ps on Q 5, K K 2 and 3.

White mates in four moves.

This is one of the most remarkable compositions we have ever published. We hope that a number of our solvers will get it.

### Solution of Problems.

No. 99.

1. R-K B 7	2. Q-R sq, ch	3. Q x B, mate
1. B-Kt sq	2. B-R 2	3. Q mates
.....	2. Q-K 7	3. Q mates
1. B Kt 2	2. any	3. Q mates
.....	2. Q x B, ch	3. Q mates
1. B-B 3	2. K moves	3. QxB (at Q 4) mate
.....	2. Q-Q 8, ch	3. Q x B, mate
1. B-Q 4	2. B-Kt sq	3. Q x B, mate
.....	2. Q-K 7	3. Q x B, mate
1. B-K 5	2. B-Kt sq	3. Q x B, mate
.....	2. ....	3. Q x B, mate

### For Dyspepsia

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Dr. J. R. SCHWARTZ, Harrisburg, Pa., says: "I have used it in dyspepsia with charming effect, and am well pleased with it."

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or,	2. B-Rt 2	3. ....
	.....	QxB (at R 2) mate
	2. B any	3. ....
	Q x B ch	Q-Kt 7 mate
1. B-B 6	2. K moves	3. ....
.....	Q-R 8 ch	QxB (at R 8), mate
1. B-R 8	2. B-Kt sq	3. ....

Correct solutions received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. E. M. McMillin, Lebanon, Ky.; J. K. Proudft, Kansas City, and R. R. R., Bay City, Mich.

K x P is the favorite unsound key-move. All those who sent this overlooked one of Black's moves, i.e., K x P Q-K 7

1. B-Kt 2 2. B-R 3 or B 3, ch

Q-B 3 will not do. B at Kt 7 has four moves that will prevent mate in three, i.e., B-Kt 5; Q-B 8 ch, B-Kt sq, etc.

One of our solvers who got this problem thinks that it has two solutions, or, that R-R 7 will do as well as B-B 7. He is wrong. R-R 7 stops the last variation given above, because Q can not take R.

We are always sorry that due credit should not be given to those who send correct solutions. The Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa., was successful with No. 98.

### Good News for Sufferers—Catarrh and Consumption Cured.

Our readers who are victims of Lung Diseases, Catarrh, Bronchitis and Consumption will be glad to know of the wonderful cures made by the new treatment known in Europe as the Andral-Broca Discovery. The New Medical Advance, 67 East 6th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, will send you this new treatment free for trial. Write to them. Give age and all particulars of your disease.

No. 100.

Kt-QR8	Kt-Kt6	Q-Bsq, ch	B-B5 mate
1. Q x R	2. Q x Kt	3. K x P	4. Kt-B4 mate
.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Q x P	3. Q x Kt	4. Kt x 6 mate	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
3. K-K6	4. Kt-B4 ch	5. Kt x B mate	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
4. K-K6	5. K-B5	6. Kt-R sq mate	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
5. K-B7	6. R-K3 ch	7. Q-B3 mate	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
6. B-Q sq	7. K x P	8. PxR (must)	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
7. Kt-Kt5	8. P x Kt	9. any	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
8. R x Q3	9. Kt-Kt6	10. Kt-K4, mate	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
9. P queens	10. P-B7	11. Q x Kt	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
10. Kt-B4, mate	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
11. PxR (queens)	.....	.....	.....

There are other variations of this beautiful problem, but those given above are sufficient.

Correctly solved by M. W. H.; the Rev. E. M. McMillin; J. N. Chandler, Des Moines, Ia.; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Ia.; S. C. Simpson, San Francisco, Cal.; C. F. Putney, Independence, Ia.

Several of our solvers sent R-K4. This is defeated by B-B3. B-Q7 or B8, with the intention of Q-B sq ch, K x P, B-R6 or Kt5 mate, is "cooked" by Q-K sq. Then Q can capture B or interpose.

The only other key-move that offered anything is Kt-Kt5, with the idea of playing Kt-R3, and mating with Kt-B4. This is knocked in the head by Q x R, followed by Q x P.

No. 101.

1. B-R sq	2. Q-Kt4, mate
.....	.....
2. R x B	3. Q x Q, mate
.....	.....
3. Q x B	4. K x B, mate
.....	.....
4. B x P	5. K-Kt4, mate
.....	.....
5. R-B5	6. Kt-B3, mate
.....	.....
6. R-Q5	7. K-Q7, mate
.....	.....
7. B-Q3	8. R x Kt, mate
.....	.....
8. Kt-B5	.....

This problem has at least 13 variations, and is conceded to be one of the finest two-movers ever composed.

Correctly solved by M. W. H., J. H. Proudfit; W. G. Donnan; C. F. Putney; the Revs. E. M. McMillin and Gilbert Dobbs, Brownsville, Tenn.; A. H. Gansser, Bay City, Mich.; F. B. Osgood, North Conway, N. H.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; H. N. Clark, Adrian, Mich.; Dr. Armstrong, Olympia, Wash.; Prof. C. D. Schmitt, University of Tennessee.

The majority of our solvers picked out B-Q4. This is defeated by R-Kt5.

B-K5 promised great things, but just look how Kt-B5 stops everything.

Mr. H. E. Bird, of London, has just published a book with the title "CHESS NOVELTIES and Their Latest Developments," with comparisons of the progress of chess openings of the past century and the present, not dealt with in existing works. Mr. Bird is one of the few remaining representatives of the old school. He believes in brilliancy of play, and, probably, would rather lose a game full of imagination than to win one safe but dull. His book receives high praise from Chess authorities who have examined it. (12mo, cloth, \$1.50. Mail free of F. WARNE & CO., 8 Cooper Union, N. Y.)

## The United States Championship Match.

## LIPSCHUTZ'S BRILLIANT VICTORY.

## Queen's Gambit Declined.

LIPSCHUTZ.	SHOWALTER.	LIPSCHUTZ.	SHOWALTER.
White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1 P-Q4	P-Q4	34 Kt-B3	Kt-Kt5
2 P-QB4	P-K3	35 Q-Kt2	K-R2
3 Kt-KB3	P-QB3	36 P-B5	R-Kt2
4 P-K3	B-Q3	37 Kt-K5	Kt x Kt
5 Kt-B3	P-KB4	38 B x Kt	R-Q2
6 B-Q3	Q-B3	39 R-B4	K-Kt sq
7 P-QKt3	Kt-KR3	40 B-B3	Kt-B3
8 B-Kt2	Castles	41 R-KB sq	R-R2
9 Q-B2	Kt-Q2	42 Q-K2	B-B2
10 Castles	P-KKt4	43 P-QKt4	R-Q sq
11 Kt-K2	P-Kt5	44 P-QR4	P-R3
12 Kt-K sq	Q-Kt4	45 P-Kt5	R P x P
13 Kt-B4	B x Kt	46 P x P	R-QR sq
14 P x B	Q x P	47 P-Kt6	Kt-Kt5
15 P-Kt3	Q-Kt4	48 B x Kt	R P x B
16 Kt-Kt2	Kt-B3	49 R(B4)-B2	Q-Kt4
17 Kt-B4	Kt-B2	50 B-B4	Q-B3
18 Q-R-K sq	Kt-K5	51 Q-Kt2	B-K sq
19 B-B sq	Q-K2	52 R-R sq	R x R
20 P-B3	P x P	53 Q x R	R-Q2
21 R x P	Kt(B2)-Kt4	54 R-QR2	K-B2
22 R(B3)-Bsq	K-R sq	55 Q-B3	K-Kt3
23 Q-KKt2	B-Q2	56 Q-K3	B-B2
24 B-Kt2	R-KKt sq	57 R-R8	R-K2
25 K-R sq	Q-R-KB sq	58 B-K5	Q-Kt4
26 B-B sq	Q-B3	59 Q x Q ch	K x Q
27 Kt-K2	P-KR4	60 B-B7	P-K4
28 B-B4	Kt-B2	61 B-Q8	K-B3
29 Q-R3	Q-Kt3	62 R-Kt8	K-K3
30 Kt-Kt sq	Q-Kt5	63 B x R	K x B
31 Q-Kt2	B-K sq	64 R x P ch	Resigns.
32 B-K2	Q-Kt3	Time-3h. 55m.	Time-3h. 57m.
33 Q-R3	Kt-R3		

Black's roth is very risky. White gave the coup de grace on his 58th move. After this Black had nothing good.

## The St. Petersburg Tourney.

## PILLSBURY IN THE LEAD.

In the third games of the first round Pillsbury lost to Steinitz, and Lasker beat Tschigorin. The Brooklyn lad again played the Petroff Defence, and at the adjournment of the afternoon's play he was looked upon as a sure winner. When play was resumed, he made a weak move which Steinitz at once took advantage of, and the veteran won after sixty moves.

Tschigorin, the master of the famous "Evans," discovered that Lasker knew a thing or two about this gambit, for the Russian was forced to resign after only twenty-five moves.

In the first games of the second round, Pillsbury offered Tschigorin a Queen's Gambit, which was declined. The Russian put up a very plucky fight, but the pressure on him was too great, and he gave up the struggle after 55 moves.

Steinitz tried the same opening on Lasker; but the young master soon became the aggressor, and won the game in forty moves.

In the second series of the second round only one game was played. Lasker was ill. Pillsbury opened with the Queen's Gambit against Steinitz, and got a decided advantage. He became careless, however, and allowed the veteran to escape with a draw, after 55 moves.

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The score to date:

PLAYERS.	Lasker....	Pillsbury....	Steinitz....	Tschigorin	Won.....
Emanuel Lasker.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 3/4
H. N. Pillsbury.....	1	0	2 1/2	1	2 1/4
William Steinitz.....	0	1 1/2	0	0	1 1/2
M. Tschigorin.....	0	0	1	1	1
Lost.....	1	1 1/2	3 1/2	3	9

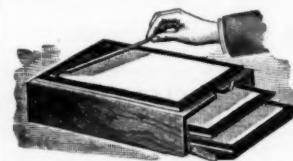
Emil Kemeny writes interestingly of the four masters in the Philadelphia Ledger:

"Lasker, in all probability, is the strongest player living. It seems he sees things quicker over the board than any one else, and once he gains an advantage in a game, no matter how small, he knows how to make use of it.

"Mr. Steinitz, who held for twenty-seven years the championship of the world, is probably more profound in his combinations than any other player. It is generally believed that he does not play as strong now as he used to years ago. Some of his games played at the Hastings tourney prove, however, that his play is still of the highest order.

"Tschigorin is the most brilliant player, and he follows Morphy's style of play more than any

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other expert. His attack is bold, brilliant, and exceedingly powerful.

"Henry Nelson Pillsbury follows pretty closely Steinitz and his modern theory. But he also knows a thing or two in the line of Lasker's fine developing tactics and of Tschigorin's brilliant attack. In their own style these men probably excel, but since Pillsbury commands a certain strength in each line, it would not be surprising at all if he would come out victorious again.

"It should be mentioned finally that, like Steinitz, he is an ardent student of the game, and he is more practical. Steinitz would adopt a new defense to the Evans Gambit, for instance, and adhere to it, notwithstanding numerous defeats. This is not the case with Pillsbury. He plays a certain defense as long as he is successful with it, but as soon as he finds out that the play is not effective he abandons it at once."

### Chess-Nuts.

The New York *Clipper* publishes the problem by Herr Kling (our 104), and says: "If there is a body of analysts on this sublimity that can answer Mr. P., *The Clipper's* corps is the one to do it." We hope that THE LITERARY DIGEST's solvers will take an interest in this problem, and show what stuff they are made of.

Reichelm and "Miron" have tabulated the "champions" as follows:—  
Champion American Club, Franklin, Philadelphia.

Champion European Club, Metropolitan, London.  
Champion of the world, *de facto*, Lasker.

" " " *de jure*, Steinitz.  
Tourney champion of the world, Pillsbury.

Lady match champion, Mrs. Showalter.

" tourney champion, Lady Thomas, England.  
Champion of America, Lipschutz.

" England, Blackburn.

" France, Janowski.

" Germany, Dr. Tarrasch.

" Austria, Marco.

" Russia, Tschigorin.

" Canada, Dr. Pollock.

" Australia, Wallace.

" Cuba, Don Golmayo.

" Mexico, Vasquez.

" Italy, Zannoni.

" Holland, Van Lennep.

Amateur champion, Maroczy (Hungary).

It is now definitely stated that the great match by cable between England and America will be played in February, 1896. While the Brooklyn Chess Club has brought about the match, the Brooklyn people do not desire to boom their Club, but to secure representative American players, so that the match will be a struggle between England and America.

Steinitz, in a recent interview, puts the United States and Cuba in the first rank as patrons of the Royal Game. He gives Russia the first place among European countries, and then France, Germany, England, and Austria the last.

The Rev. J. De Soyres, writing to the New Orleans *Times-Democrat* in reference to the Tarrasch letter, suggests that, in one instance, the translation did not do full justice to Tarrasch's "sly, humorous hits." The German Doctor said of Von Bardeleben, "er verdunstete einfach," which was translated "He simply vanished." The Rev. gentleman thinks that "He simply evaporated" is not only more literal, but also more telling.

In the American Championship match, the score stands; Showalter, 6; Lipschutz, 4; Draws, 3. It took 112 moves and 15 hours, 11 minutes, to decide the 13th game.

Philadelphia has a boy Chess-player, Oscar Bilgram, who is blind. He is, also, quite an artist in

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the pianoforte. Is there any relationship between music and Chess?

One of our solvers desires to know if it is allowable to use board and pieces in solving problems. Certainly. The better way, however, for self-benefit, is to study the position and not move the pieces.

Persons sending original problems must send solutions. We have so many problems to examine, that we can't take time to work out every problem sent.

## Current Events.

Monday, December 16.

Congress receives the report of the Secretary of the Treasury. . . . Senator Stewart speaks on the exchange relations between gold and silver

countries. . . . Over three millions in gold are exported, and there is a report of another bond issue. . . . A mass-meeting is held in New York to protest against Sunday-opening of saloons. . . . Packages containing infernal machines are sent to P. D. Armour and Geo. M. Pullman, but the Chicago postal authorities are warned in time.

Further reports of Armenian outrages are made public. . . . There is a rumor that negotiations are in progress for the cession of Cuba to England; Gomez and Maceo are defeated in an engagement.

Tuesday, December 17.

President Cleveland sends a message to Congress on the Venezuelan question and recommends a commission to investigate the boundary dispute. . . . A big strike of motormen and conductors results in a tie-up of Philadelphia's street-car lines; there is considerable disorder. . . . The Federation of Labor convention adjourns. . . . The New York tailors' strike is smaller than had been anticipated.

The British press treats the Venezuela message as a campaign document unworthy of



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serious consideration. . . . The Triple Alliance, it is believed, decides to make no further move in the Armenian matter.

Wednesday, December 18.

The House unanimously passes a bill appropriating \$100,000 for the Venezuelan commission suggested by the President. . . . A bill is introduced by Senator Chandler appropriating \$100,000,000 for war material. . . . The Philadelphia strike continues; there is more rioting and conflicts with the police. . . . Five thousand coal-miners go out on strike in the Southwest.

The Continental press expresses dissent from the application of the Monroe doctrine made by President Cleveland; it is not expected, however, that war will be brought about. . . . Venezuela is said to be enthusiastic over the attitude of the United States.

Thursday, December 19.

The Venezuelan Boundary Commission bill is discussed in the Senate. . . . Senator Hale introduces a bill to provide for constructing six battle-ships and twenty-five torpedo-boats. . . . The official correspondence on the Armenian outrages is submitted to the Senate. . . . Thirty-eight miners are killed by an explosion in a coal mine at Cummock, N. C. . . . New York Court of Appeals sets aside the conviction of Erastus Wiman for forgery. . . . Governor Foster, of Louisiana, renominated by Democrats.

It is reported that the British Foreign Office will insist on indemnity for the arrests of British colonial police in Venezuela and will hold to the Shomburgk line against any power. . . . Delay of action by the United States Senate pleases the British press. . . . The Italian Chamber approves government credits for carrying on the Abyssinian campaign.

Friday, December 20.

The Senate unanimously passed without amendment the House bill for a Venezuelan Boundary Commission. . . . Senator Allen (Pop.) secured the passage of his resolution (36 to 24) instructing the Finance Committee to inquire as to the present expediency of free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 and issuing an adequate volume of legal-tender Treasury notes. . . . President Cleveland sends a special message to Congress asking no adjournment until relief is given to the financial situation. . . . Stock market declines 1 to 8 per cent.; three Wall Street firms suspend. . . . Philadelphia strikers send for Eugene V. Debs and John McBride; a settlement reported.

American securities on the London Stock market drop, on the average, five points. . . . The London press believes that President Cleveland's Venezuelan policy is losing favor here. . . . The Armenian Patriarch Izmislian, Constantinople, writes to the Porte denying that Armenians have outraged the Turks.

Saturday, December 21.

President Cleveland signs the Venezuelan Boundary Commission bill. . . . Speaker Reed announces the House committees; the financial message and the resolution for a holiday recess are referred to the Ways and Means committee. . . . The President's financial message still lies on the table in the Senate; Populist and Republican opposition to it appears in the discussion. . . . Stocks continue to fall; four failures reported. . . . The president of the Philadelphia Traction Company does not accept a proposed settlement of the strike.

A wholesale slaughter of Armenians in Zeitoun is imminent. . . . Italy is said to have offered to act as arbitrator between Great Britain and the United States in the Venezuelan case. . . . The Venezuelan cabinet decides to send diplomatic missions to all countries now without Venezuelan legations; there is a public demand for the mobilization of the Venezuelan National Guard.

Sunday, December 22.

The Ways and Means committee of the House is expected to frame a provisional tariff bill for action during holiday week. . . . Newspapers report President Cleveland's decision to issue bonds, having satisfied himself that Congress will not give relief. . . . Many pulpits speak for peace. . . . The Mississippi River is rising on account of floods in Missouri and the West.

Intimations are made that Great Britain will resume diplomatic relations with Venezuela as a way out of the present situation. . . . Russian and German press comment does not recognize the Monroe doctrine as part of international law. . . . Conflicting reports come of a massacre of Armenians at Zeitoun.

#### Good News for Asthmatics.

We observe that the Kola plant, found on the Kongo River, West Africa, is now in reach of sufferers from Asthma. As before announced, this new discovery is a positive cure for Asthma. You can make trial of the Kola Compound free, by addressing a postal card to the Kola Importing Co., 1164 Broadway, New York, who are sending out large trial cases free by mail to sufferers.

## By the Winners

of the

## New York Herald

## Prizes.

[Julian Hawthorne is winner of the *New York Herald's* recent Ten-Thousand-Dollar Prize for the Best Novel—His "Archibald Malmaison," published by the Funk & Wagnalls Company, he rates as among his very best works. Edgar Fawcett is winner of the *New York Herald's* Two-Thousand-Dollar Prize for the Best Short Story (His "Songs of Doubt and Dream," see below, is considered his best book of Poems).—See *New York Herald* of December 1, 1895.]

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# A Vile Attack on the Standard Dictionary

*"One of the meanest, most low-lived, and dastardly tricks ever attempted in any line of commercial competition."*

—THE BUFFALO (N. Y.) ENQUIRER, Dec. 13, 1895.

A grave wrong is being perpetrated by a reprinter of one of the English competitors of the Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary, assisted by some unscrupulous agents of other dictionaries—a wrong that can not be excused by the exigencies of commercial rivalry. As is well known, in all unabridged dictionaries it is necessary to give the definitions of certain indelicate words. Eighteen of these words (selected out of a vocabulary of over 300,000 terms in the Standard) have been collated and printed with their definitions by the reprinter of this English dictionary, and circulars containing them are being distributed among teachers, school trustees, and parents all through this country, stirring up a filthy agitation that will end, unless frowned down by the public press and other leaders of public opinion, in setting people of prurient minds, and children everywhere, to searching dictionaries for this class of words. One of these publications contains such outrageously unjust comments as the following:

"About two years ago the publishing house of Funk & Wagnalls brought into the world a monstrosity entitled the 'Standard Dictionary of the English Language.'

"So far as relates to collection of obscene, filthy, blasphemous, slang, and profane words, it has no counterpart in dictionaries of the English language.

It is but fair to the press and scholars of England to say that the English critics have in no way seconded this unfair assault, but are unanimous in the most unqualified indorsement of the American work—the Standard Dictionary, expressing in many ways the same opinion as that of the St. James's Budget [weekly edition of the St. James's Gazette], London, which said:

"To say that it is perfect in form and scope is not extravagance of praise, and to say that it is the most valuable dictionary of the English language is but to repeat the obvious. The Standard Dictionary should be the pride of literary America as it is the admiration of literary England."

The insincerity of this attack on the Standard is seen in the fact that nearly every one of these eighteen words is in the English work published by this reprinter, and it contains other words so grossly indelicate, and withal so rarely used, as to have been excluded from the Standard and from nearly all the other dictionaries. Fifteen out of the eighteen words (and others of the same class) are, and properly so, in the Century dictionary, and they are to be found, with scarcely an exception, in every other reputable unabridged dictionary, and this class of words is invariably recorded in the leading dictionaries of all languages.

Since this attack was made, we have submitted to Charles A. Dana, and to a number of well-known educators, the question whether we committed an error in admitting into the Standard, as have other dictionaries, this class of words. The answer has been, without an exception, "You did not."

The fact is, extraordinary care was used by the editors of the Standard "to protect the language." Of the more than 500,000 words collected by the hundreds of readers employed to search all books of merit from Chaucer's time to the present, over 200,000 were excluded *wholly from the vocabulary*; hence there was no need to pad the vocabulary. The rules of exclusion and inclusion were most carefully made and rigidly enforced. A most perplexing problem from beginning to end was how to reduce the vocabulary, not how to enlarge it. Compression was carried by many devices to the extremest degree. The editors who passed upon the admission of words numbered over one hundred of the best-known writers and scholars in America and England. To accuse such men of "filthiness" is to do a wrong of the gravest degree. It is the business of a dictionary to record words, not to create, nor to destroy them; to answer inquirers concerning the spelling, pronunciation, and meaning of all words that are used to any considerable extent, not to omit those

it does not fancy. Whether a word has a right to exist or not, the final arbiter is the people, not the dictionary. The dictionary, as says Trench, should be the inventory of the language, and, as says the Encyclopedia Britannica, under the term, "Dictionary," it

"should include all of the words of the language. . . . A complete and standard dictionary should make no choice. Words obsolete and newly coined, barbarous, vulgar, and affected, temporary, provincial, and local, belonging to peculiar classes, professions, pursuits, and trades, should all find their place—the only question being as to the evidence of their existence—not, indeed, all received with equal honor and regard, but with their characteristics and defects duly noted and pointed out."

Improper or indelicate words, when it was necessary to admit them into the Standard, were blacklisted as *low*, *vulgar*, *slang*, and printed in small type. It did not seem to the editors that an unabridged dictionary could go further without justly incurring blame.

To collect from such a work words of the class referred to and publish them is as great an outrage as to collect from the Bible the many indelicate words and passages to be found there, or those from Shakespeare (some of these eighteen words are found both in the Bible and in Shakespeare), and then to print and scatter abroad the collection, saying: "See what a foul book is the Bible; see what an obscene and blasphemous work is Shakespeare." The publication and distribution of these circulars is a gross assault on public decency. An agent who attempts to exhibit such a printed circular should not be listened to; he is a public enemy, and should be turned from every decent door.

The old story will be remembered of a woman accosting Samuel Johnson, shortly after his dictionary had been published, with, "Doctor Johnson, I am so sorry you put in your dictionary the naughty words." "Madam," retorted the doctor, "I am sorry that you have been looking for them."

## It Awakens the Wrath of Scholars, Teachers, and Editors

*"Not Business Rivalry, but Business Infamy."*

**Professor F. H. Knowlton**, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.: "I have never seen a single word in the Standard that was not legitimately there or that I would not be disappointed in not finding. Some people entirely mistake the function of a dictionary. It is to reflect, not to create language. It does not legitimate a word to find it properly defined in a dictionary."

**Professor D. G. Brinton, M.D., LL.D.**, University of Pennsylvania, and President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science: "The attack upon the Standard Dictionary is absurd, malicious, and inexcusable. The Standard Dictionary was unquestionably right in inserting the class of words referred to, right by the precedent established in the most cultivated countries, and right by the requirements of linguistic science."

**Montgomery Rogers Hooper**, Headmaster Yeates Institute, Lancaster, Pa.: "The public is composed of sensible people who will understand the animus of this attack. . . . Give the calf all the rope he wants."

**W. J. Rolfe**, the Shakespearian critic, Cambridge, Mass.: "I think the editors did right in giving the words a place in the Standard. The persons who criticize their course by picking out the words and objecting to them do a hundredfold more mischief by their circular than the use of the Dictionary by all the people who consult it would effect in a century. Of course they are actuated by some malice or a mean trickery that no honorable competitor would be guilty of."

**A. M. Kellogg**, Editor *School Journal*, New York City: "The Standard Dictionary contains no words or definitions that could properly be omitted from a work that aims at completeness. The attack on the Standard can only develop its excellencies."

**David Ward Wood**, Editor *The Farmers' Voice*, Chicago, Ill.: "Language is too weak to express one's feeling with reference to such a dastardly rivalry. The Standard is in constant use in my family. My children in their language, nature, and scientific studies, always consult the Standard even after reference to text-books and encyclopedias, and usually find in the dictionary a clearer explanation of terms than any other authority gives."

**Editors Youth's Companion**, Boston, Mass.: "We make use of the Standard Dictionary in our office for proof-reading purposes, and regard it as among the best of our authorities, and should certainly not banish it for any such silly reason as the rivals of the Standard Dictionary give for excluding it."

**The Cincinnati Medical Journal**, Cincinnati, O.: "We regard the attacks that are being made on the Standard Dictionary in interested quarters as utterly uncalled for and without the shadow of a foundation of fact. It would seem that the specific charge could excite nothing but contempt in the minds of intelligent people, and should be frowned upon and discouraged in every manner possible."

**The Buffalo Enquirer**, Dec. 13: "One of the meanest, most low-lived, and dastardly tricks ever attempted in any line of commercial competition. Such an evil-minded attack can have no permanent effect except to brand its author as a prurient blackguard."

**The New York Recorder**, Dec. 13, says of the attack: "It does not seem as if any rival could be so idiotic. . . . Any fool ought to know that a dictionary must define all sorts of words."

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